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PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT

13

ONE MINUTE PAST MIDNIGHT™

CREATED BY TAKAO SAITO

06

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GOLGO 13

Volume 06: ONE MINUTE PAST MIDNIGHT

VIZ Signature Edition

CREATED BY TAKAO SAITO

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RATED M FOR MATURE

PARENTAL ADVISORY
GOLGO 13 is rated M and is recommended for mature readers.
It contains violence and sexual themes.

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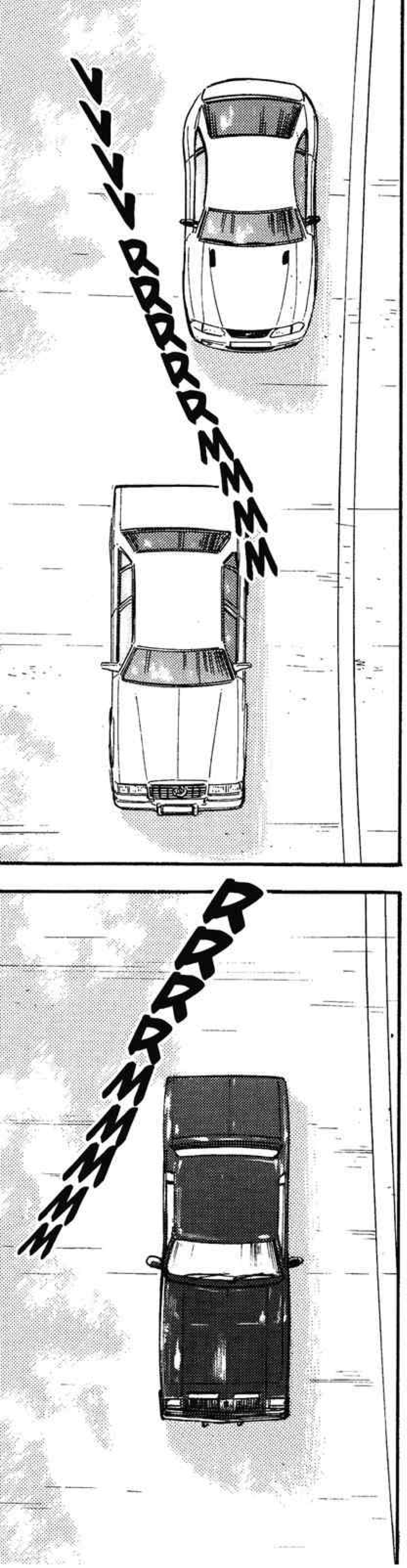
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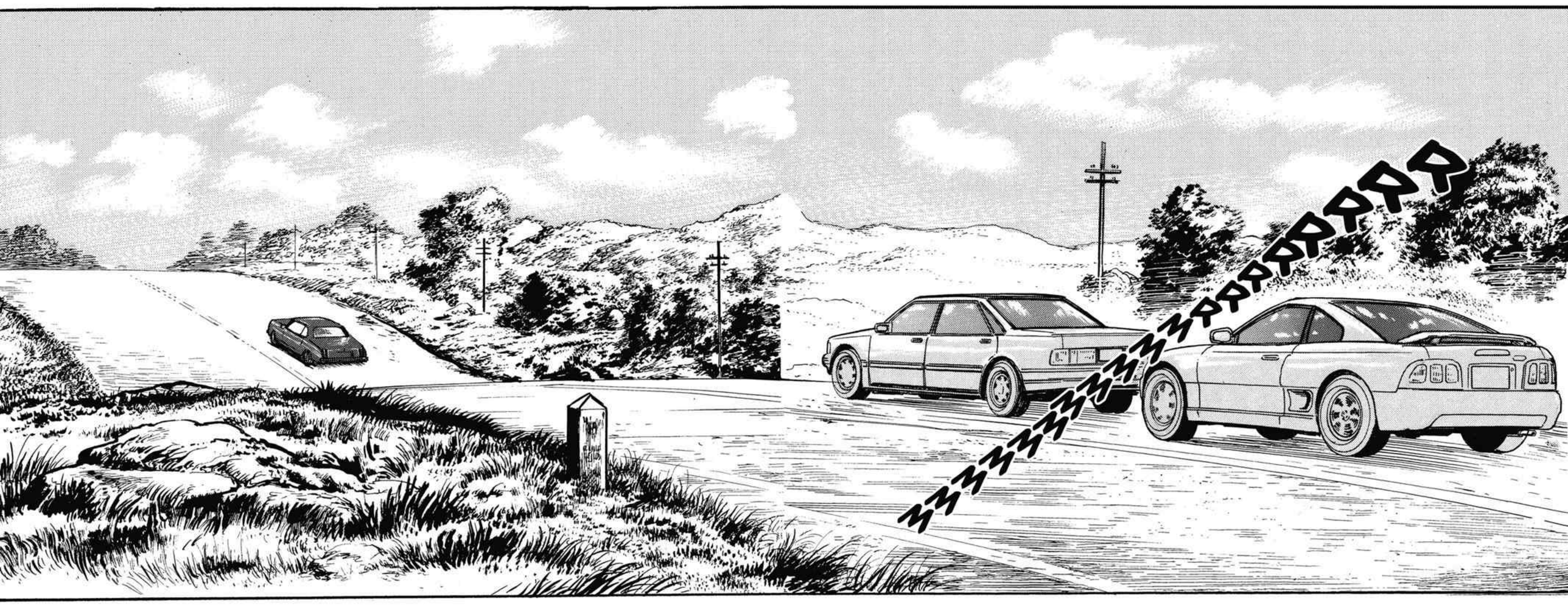


KNOCK IT OFF, ED.

YOU A *COMMIE*? YOU A...*COMMIE COLLEGE BOY*, ROOSKIE?

WHAT YOU SAY YER NAME WUZ? KALENKOV? SHEEEIT! WHY, THAT SOUNDS ***ROOSKIE!***

HE'S A DANGEROUS MAN.

HE'S NOT JUST SOME OLD PROFESSOR.

"...AWARDED THE ORDER OF LENIN... HERO OF SOCIALIST LABOR."

"RENOWNED DEMOLITIONS ENGINEER...

RIGHT, RIGHT, RIGHT, SIR: "YURI EVGENIEVICH KALENKOV. GRADUATED TOP OF HIS CLASS IN METALLURGY, KIEV POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE. THREE TIMES UNIVERSITY MARTIAL ARTS CHAMPION...

WELL, BOB, THEN YOU TELL ME. WHAT ARE WE LETTING HIM CRUISE AROUND FOR?

...FORGOT THE PART WHERE HE WAS A LIEUTENANT-COLONEL IN THE KGB UNDER *SPETSGRUPPA V*... TRAINING THEIR TOP SABOTEURS,

YOU...

HOW MUCH DO THEY GIVE HIM AGAIN ...?

HELL, BOB, *WE* DON'T GET ANY EXTRA MONEY FROM THE AGENCY FOR THIS.

$60,000 PENSION TAX-FREE A YEAR...THAT'S ON TOP OF THE SALARY WE SET HIM UP WITH AT THE UNIVERSITY.

HE WAS SUPPOSED TO GO TO A CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA AND THEN HEAD STRAIGHT BACK TO CAMPUS. INSTEAD HE'S GOT US WORKING OVERTIME FOLLOWING HIM AROUND.

WELL, IT'S TIME FOR THE NURSE TO GIVE MR. KALENKOV HIS PILLS. GET READY TO SANDWICH HIM.

NICE LIFE, NURSEMAIDING A DEFECTOR. FOR THE DEFECTOR, I MEAN.

GOT OUT OF THE USSR WHILE THE GETTIN' WAS GOOD, HUH?

RRRRRRRRR

READY.

READY ON MY SIGNAL, ED?

THIS IS CROW. GO.

BLUE-BIRD.

VVVV

RRRRRR

RRRRRRRMMMMMMM

SKKRRRRRR

RRR

SKKKREEEEEEEEEE

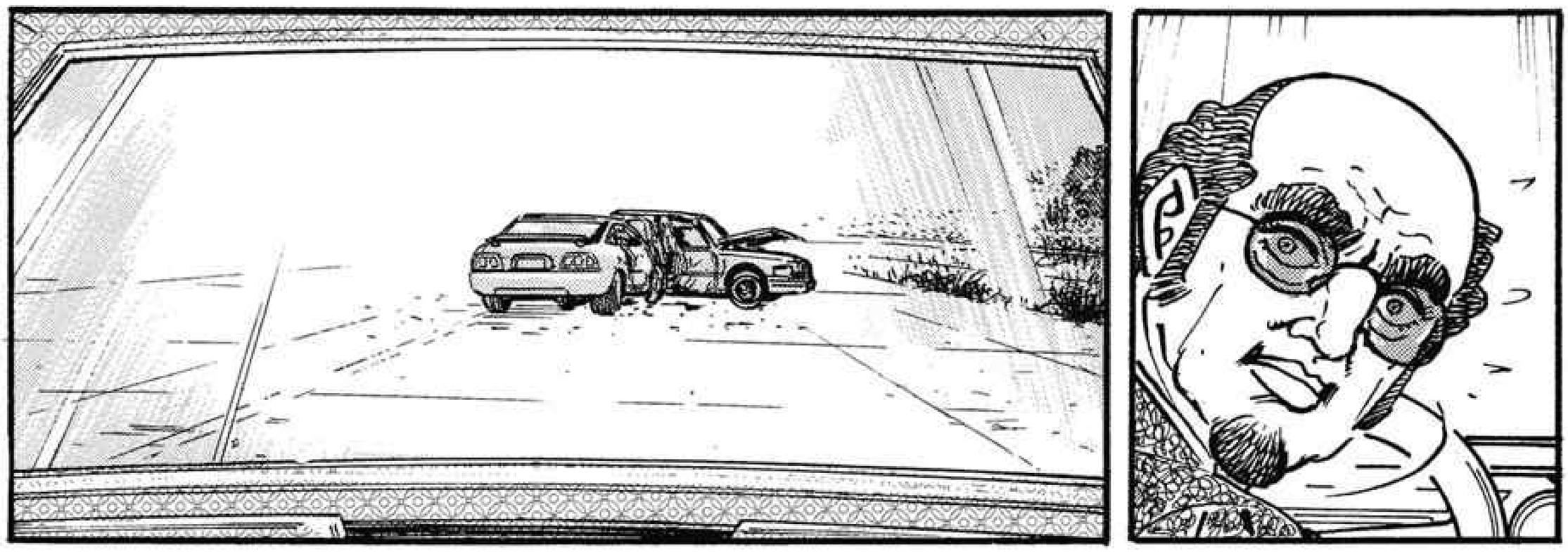
RMMMMMM

SHSOO

--JESUS!

KRASH

MMMM



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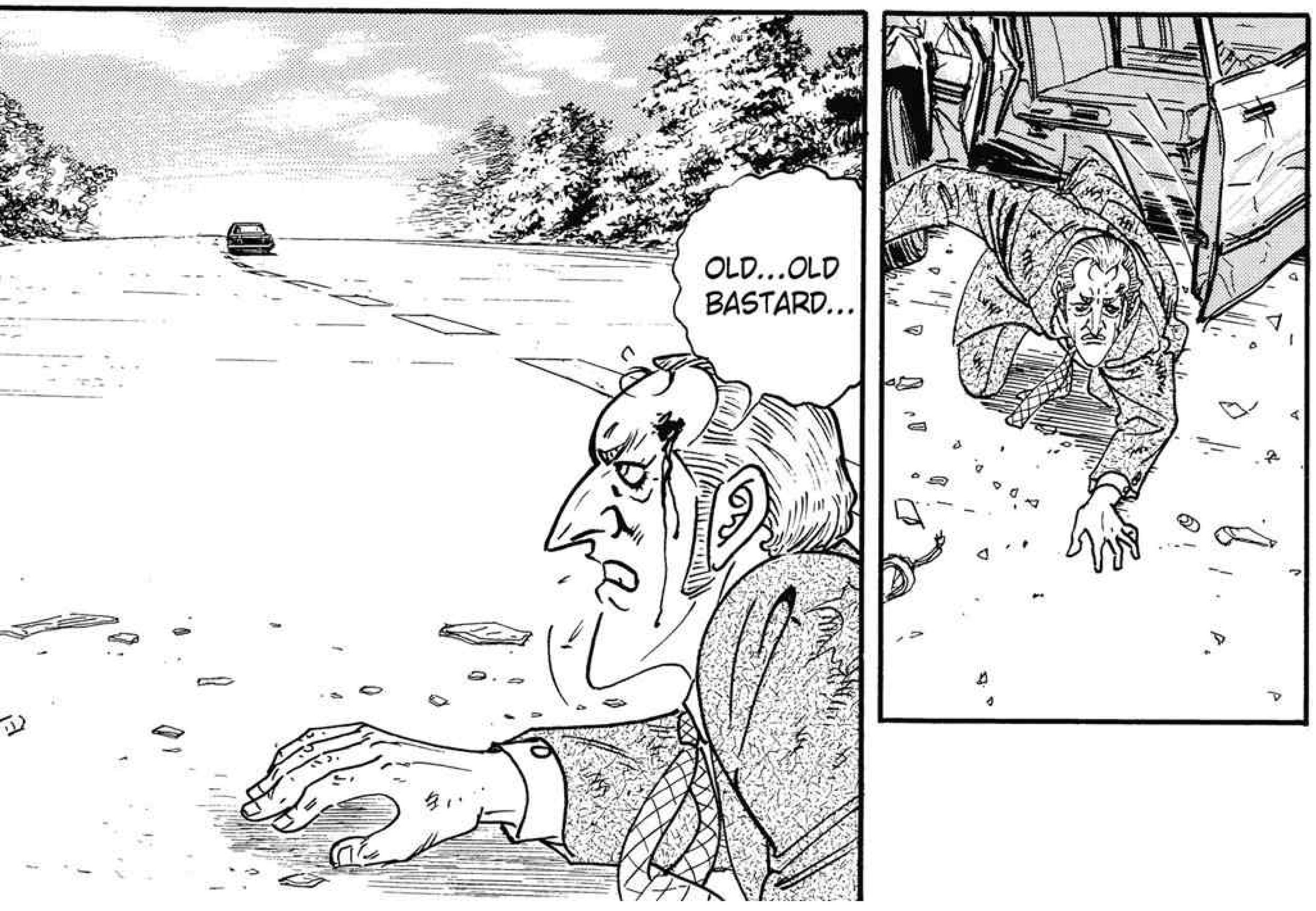
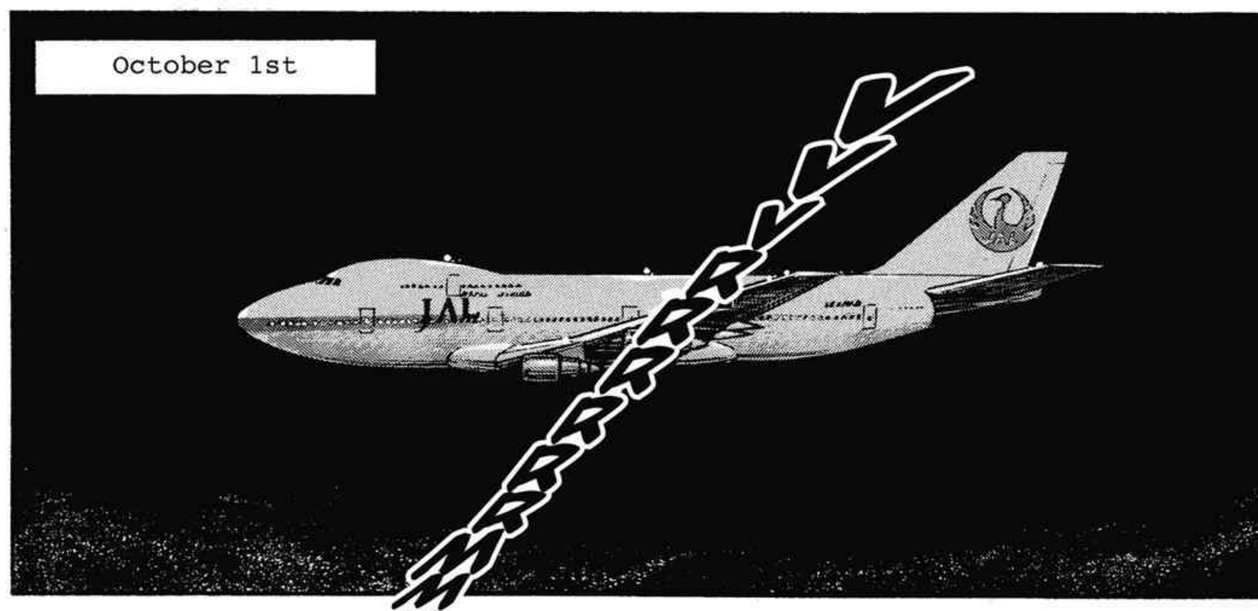

OLD...OLD BASTARD...

ONE MINUTE PAST MIDNIGHT

PART 1 THE MAN WHO WAS CALLED BACK



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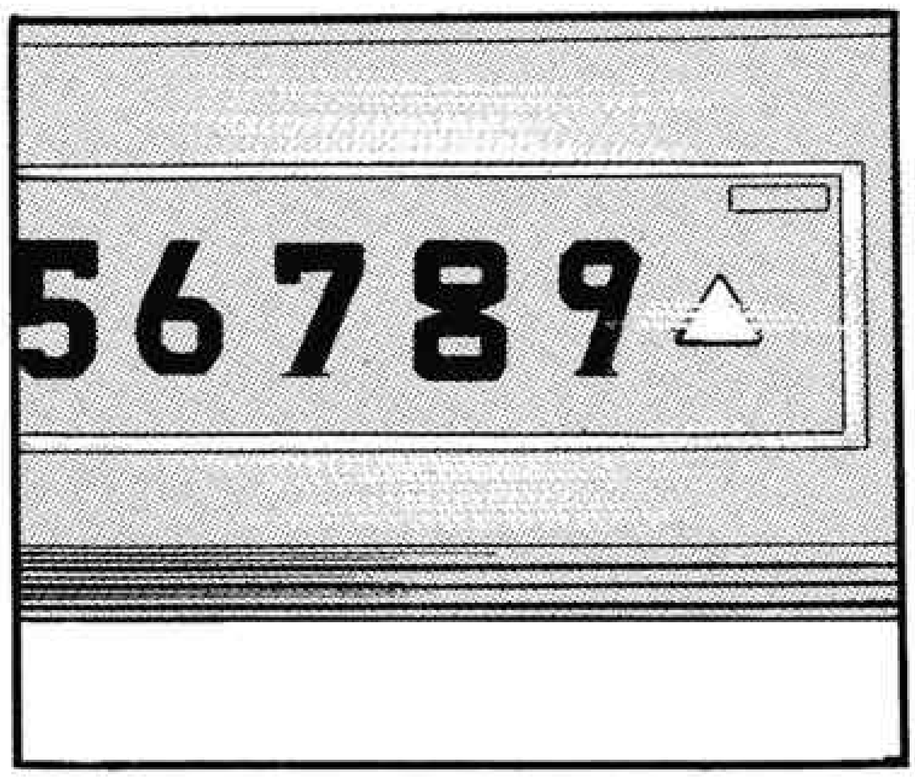
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beep beep beep

TENTH FLOOR.

RRRRRRR

CIA - National Resident Operations Center

NROC Director
Eric Kinkaid

CONGRAT-
ULATIONS,
MR.
STEWART.

HOW SELFISH.

I BROUGHT YOU BACK HERE TO DO SOME REAL WORK.

NO MORE LATE NIGHTS IN SUSHI BARS, TRYING TO STEAL THE BLUEPRINTS TO THE TAMA-GOTCHI.

I WAS IN THIS SECTION FOR 26 YEARS.

AFTER THE COLD WAR, YOU SENT MOST OF US AWAY LIKE KIDS TO SUMMER CAMP.

!

I'M A SOVIET EXPERT... I ALWAYS HAVE BEEN.

ASSIGNED TO INDUSTRIAL ESPIONAGE IN JAPAN..."A CHANGE OF PACE," YOU SAID. I DON'T EVEN SPEAK THE LANGUAGE.

.....

...I REMEMBER THEM.

AH, YES, THE SOVIETS...

...IT WAS DECIDED WE DIDN'T NEED ONE ANY MORE.

BUT...

YOU WERE ...

OF THE 519 HIGH-VALUE DEFECTORS THE NROC MONITORS, FORTY PERCENT ARE EX-SOVIET UNION. CHINA'S BEEN A BIG GROWTH AREA SINCE YOU LEFT...THE REST, MOSTLY FROM CUBA AND THE FORMER WARSAW PACT.

WE HAD TO MAKE CHANGES.

JEFF, YOU SAID I WAS SELFISH. NOW YOU'RE THE ONE BEING SELFISH. THE CIA'S BUDGET WAS CUT BACK EVERYWHERE. SENATOR MOYNIHAN EVEN TALKED ABOUT HAVING THE AGENCY ABOLISHED BECAUSE WE'D FAILED TO PREDICT THE SOVIET COLLAPSE.

...CHIEF OF THE SOVIET SECTION, IF YOU REMEMBER THAT TOO.

IS THAT ABOUT THE SIZE OF IT?

...WOULD SUDDENLY MAKE A VIOLENT EXIT FROM OUR SURVEILLANCE.

AND WE FAILED TO PREDICT OUR TOP SOVIET DEFECTOR, WHO TO ALL APPEARANCES WAS HAPPY WITH HIS LIFE HERE...

I'M MORE LIKE A MANGY OLD STRAY, ERIC. *YURI KALENKOV'S* THE WOLF. THE QUESTION IS, WHAT DOES HE WANT?

...WHO CAN'T SEE THAT THE WORLD MOVES ON...

POOR, LONELY WOLVES ...

MITCHELL'S ALREADY ON DEATH ROW-- THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.

MITCHELL? BUT...

HENRY MITCHELL.

WHAT RUMOR?

BUT THERE'S BEEN A RUMOR.

HE WON'T BE MUCH LONGER. THE EXECUTION DATE'S FINALLY BEEN SET. HE GETS THE NEEDLE ON THE 13TH.

...WHITE...

HE'S ELOQUENT... HANDSOME...

THAT HE MIGHT GET A STAY OF EXECUTION, HIS SENTENCE COMMUTED... MAYBE EVEN A NEW TRIAL. SOMEHOW OR OTHER HE BECAME A *CAUSE CÉLÈBRE*. ANTI-DEATH PENALTY ADVOCATES HAVE LATCHED ONTO HIM.

ONE OF THE WORST TRAITORS OUR COUNTRY'S EVER SEEN.

YOU KNEW MITCHELL. HE'S A SOCIOPATH. HE SOLD THE KGB THE NAMES OF TWELVE OF OUR DOUBLE AGENTS IN RUSSIA. BY 1985 HE HAD THREE MILLION IN BLOOD MONEY.

.....

WANTED TO CLOSE UP SHOP, I GUESS.

WHEN MITCHELL WAS GETTING READY TO FLEE THE COUNTRY, HE SHOT HIS WIFE.

BUT THE PUBLIC DOESN'T KNOW THAT.

ONE OF THE TWELVE WAS MAXIM... KALENKOV'S BROTHER.

DID US A FAVOR, REALLY.

SO THE STATE TRIED HIM FOR MURDER, AND WE NEVER HAD TO HAUL HIM INTO FEDERAL COURT... AND EXPOSE THE WHOLE SORRY STORY.

HE'S *GONE*, ISN'T HE?!

...HE'S NOT THE KIND OF MAN TO ACT ON RUMOR.

BUT YURI ...

HE'D FLY A PLANE FILLED WITH SEMTEX INTO THAT PRISON IF HE THOUGHT IT WOULD MAKE ABSOLUTELY SURE.

YOU KNOW WHAT HE'S CAPABLE OF.

I WAS WRONG ABOUT YOU, AND I WAS WRONG ABOUT HIM. BUT THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT A CAREER TERRORIST IS ON THE LOOSE RIGHT NOW, AND *OUR AGENCY* LET HIM INTO THE COUNTRY.

...IN JUST ONE WEEK...?

YOU THINK I CAN CAPTURE YURI...

THEY COULD HAVE JUST AS EASILY DIED.

CAPTURE? NO, KILLING HIM WILL BE FINE. HIS LITTLE VANISHING ACT SENT FOUR OF OUR MEN TO THE HOSPITAL.

...IF YOU CAN GET HIM ALIVE, I'LL BE IMPRESSED, TOO.

OF COURSE ...

.....

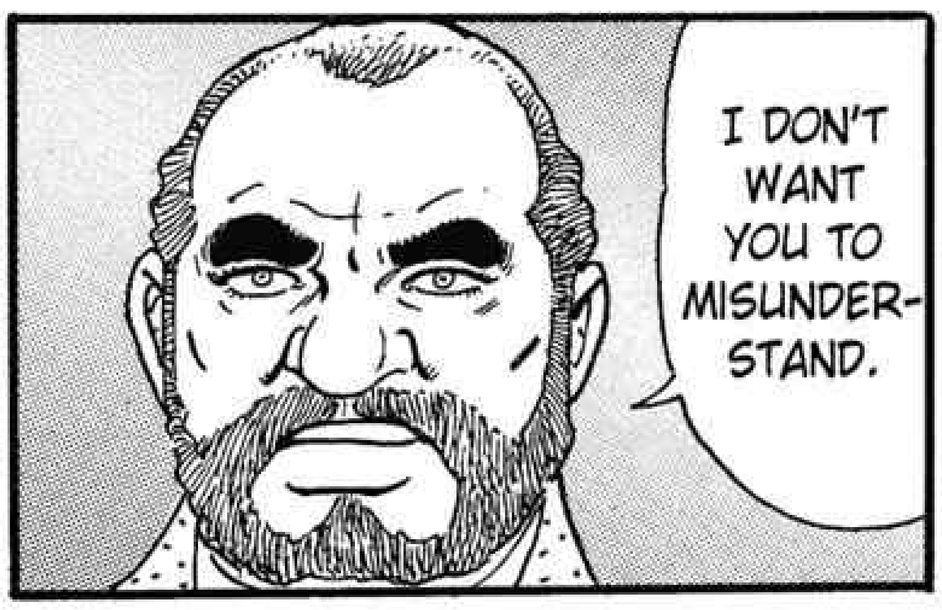
.....

THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME...

PART 2 MEMORIES OF A SPY

In 1974, I became his contact...his handler...almost his father confessor.

Maxim Kalenkov was a senior officer in the First Chief Directorate- the foreign intelligence arm of the KGB. When he was stationed at the Soviet embassy in the US, he contacted the CIA of his own accord...



"You're not really a traitor." That's what both sides always tell a spy. "I'm not really a traitor." That's what both sides' spies always say. Maxim knew this better than anyone. And yet...

...IT IS FOR MINE.

WHAT I GIVE TO YOU IS NOT FOR YOUR PEOPLE'S BENEFIT...

WHAT MONEY IS TO YOUR COUNTRY, POWER IS TO MINE. AND THOSE IN MY COUNTRY WHO HAVE THE MOST HAVE LONG SINCE CEASED TO CARE ABOUT THE LIVES OF THOSE WITH NONE.

...BUT HAVING BEEN BORN IN MY NATION, I WISH TO DIE IN IT.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS...

I CAN ASSURE YOU OF BEING GRANTED ASYLUM.

IF...IF IT LOOKS AS IF THINGS WILL BECOME DANGEROUS FOR YOU, I ASK THAT YOU TELL ME RIGHT AWAY.

He would never permit me to speak of his safety. After five years of passing us information, he was suddenly called back to Moscow.

.....

...AND AN EXECUTION.

YOU CAN'T GO BACK THERE, MAXIM. WE'VE SEEN THIS THING HAPPEN BEFORE. A SUDDEN RECALL, A SURPRISE TRIAL...

.....

MR. STEWART, I HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE ABOUT MY ACTIONS.

THERE'S A MOLE WITHIN THE AGENCY.

WE DON'T THINK IT'S YOUR OWN PEOPLE UNCOVERING THEM.

.....

BUT...IF YOU STILL WISH TO REPAY ME...

I WOULD BE GLAD OF THE CHANCE TO TELL THEM WHAT I THINK.

CAN YOU GET HIM OUT?

THEY MAY ARREST HIM TOO, MERELY BECAUSE WE ARE SO CLOSE.

I... OF COURSE, I'LL LOOK INTO IT...

HE FEELS JUST AS I DO, BUT HAS NOT ACTED ON IT.

...GIVE YOUR HELP INSTEAD TO MY BROTHER YURI.

. . . . . .

IN THAT CASE, I HAVE NOTHING TO REGRET.

I had to consider the possibility it was a KGB set-up...establish trust through Maxim, then a staged arrest in order to pass us Yuri, who would have a mission of his own.

But the reality was depressingly simple. The mole existed, and it would take us six more years to learn his name.

KAKAKAKAKAKA

I led the extraction team personally. We rendezvoused with Yuri, and made for an escape route through Finland.

RRR-RRRMMMMM

BRRR

...LEAVE MY BROTHER TO DIE.

I CAN'T...

WHAT IS IT?

.....

HE LOVES YOU...HE WANTS YOU TO LIVE.

...YURI, THIS IS THE ONLY THING YOUR BROTHER HAS EVER ASKED OF ME. WHAT DO YOU THINK IT TOOK FOR THAT PROUD MAN TO LOWER HIS HEAD...?

.....

IF YOU TURN AROUND NOW... *THAT* WOULD BE TURNING YOUR BACK ON HIM.

LIVE OR DIE, DECIDE NOW.

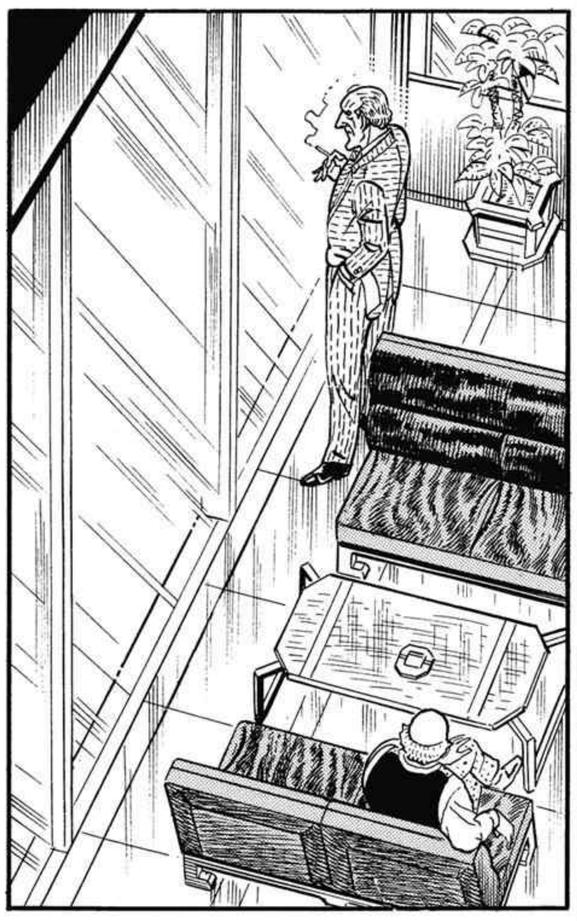
BUT IF IT'S DEATH YOU TRULY WANT...YOU'LL GET IT ONLY ON MY TERMS.

IT'S EVERYTHING THAT MAXIM WORKED FOR.

YOU CAN HAVE A NEW LIFE IN AMERICA! YOU CAN MAKE WHATEVER YOU WANT OF IT! AND YOU'LL SEE A BETTER FUTURE FOR YOUR COUNTRY COME ABOUT.

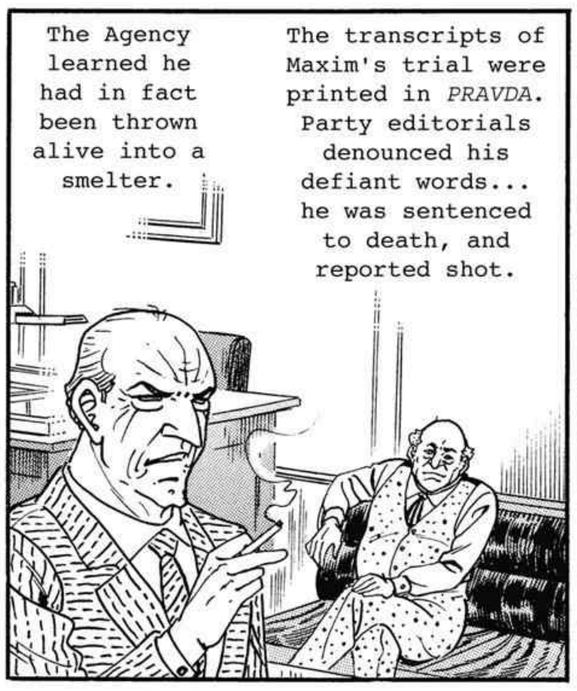
.....

.....



.....

LET'S GO...


The Agency learned he had in fact been thrown alive into a smelter.
The transcripts of Maxim's trial were printed in *PRAVDA*. Party editorials denounced his defiant words... he was sentenced to death, and reported shot.

KKKK

PART 3 LAST DAYS

Brushfelt State Penitentary, October 3rd

THE CLEMENCY CAMPAIGN'S SENT THE GOVERNOR ENOUGH FAXES TO WALLPAPER HIS MANSION.

THE LATEST IS THAT A TOP WASHINGTON LAWYER HAS SIGNED ON TO HIS CASE... *PRO BONO.*

WHADDYA HEAR ABOUT MITCHELL'S APPEAL?

AND THEY SWITCHED TO LETHAL INJECTION *BECAUSE* OF ALL THE BUNGLES THEY USED TO HAVE WITH THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!

YEAH...OUR OP-ED PIECE IS SAYING IT'S A COIN TOSS. THE PRESS OVER THE LAST TWO INJECTIONS THEY SCREWED UP MADE THE STATE A LAUGHING-STOCK...

MUST OF BROKEN THEIR HEARTS TO GIVE UP THAT OLD SOUTHERN FRIED KILLIN'.

OH, THEY LOVED THAT ELECTRIC CHAIR, ALL RIGHT...

MITCHELL, WHO HAS MAINTAINED HIS INNOCENCE IN THE 1985 SHOOTING DEATH OF HIS WIFE...

INSIDE THESE WALLS, CONVICTED KILLER HENRY WARD MITCHELL IS LIVING OUT WHAT ARE LIKELY TO BE HIS LAST DAYS.

Buford, Georgia

...THE LETTER FROM YURI... IT CAME IN THE MAIL JUST TODAY.

THE 12TH ...

Elaine, I'm exhausted from the research for my new book. I've decided to take a short break and visit friends in Texas, so please don't worry about me. I'll be out of touch until the 12th. You can contact me at the Stanley Marsh Hotel in Amarillo then—Yuri

YOU KNOW YOU'RE IMPORTANT TO HIM, ELAINE. YOU'VE BEEN TOGETHER EIGHT YEARS. YOU KNOW HE WOULDN'T TRY TO WORRY YOU, WOULD HE?

...I...I'M A LITTLE CONCERNED FOR HIM...

POOR YURI, HE...HE REALLY HASN'T BEEN FEELING TOO WELL LATELY. HIS DOCTOR DID SAY HE SHOULD TAKE A REST, BUT...

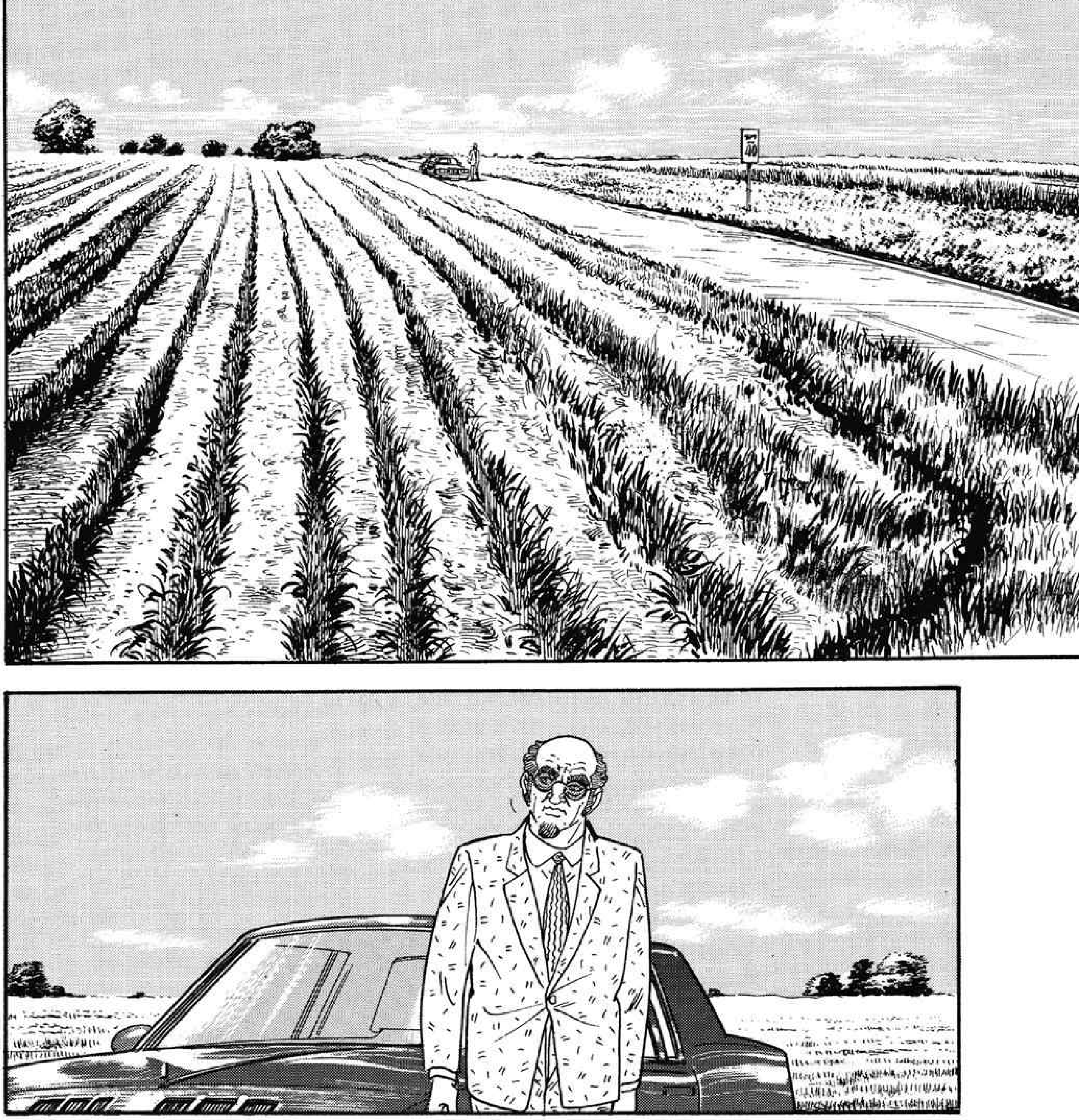
.....

...SOME-TIMES I WONDER IF I EVER REALLY DO KNOW HIM...

N-NO... BUT...

PART 4 KALENKOV'S OBJECTIVE

Adrian, Texas



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN--

ARE YOU YURI KALENKOV ...?

!!

.....

I MEAN, GOLGO 13 ...?

ARE YOU DUKE TOGO...

VRRRRR

VRRRRR

GEORGI? *KAK DE'LA?* DA, DA...NO, IT'S IMPORTANT. CAN YOU MEET ME AT LAFONTAINE'S THIS AFTERNOON? ABOUT TWO. *YA BLAGA'DAREN VAM ZA 'POMASHCH.*

New Orleans

BUILT UP FOR WHAT?

THAT'S ALL BEEN BUILT UP, MY FRIEND.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, GEORGI?

WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY ...!?

BUT IT AIN'T GONNA BE OUT OF CONCERN FOR HIS HUMAN RIGHTS.

I *SAID* IT'S BULLSHIT, JEFF. THEY'RE GONNA CANCEL HIS EXECUTION, ALL RIGHT.

I MEAN...YOU *UNDERSTAND*, DON'T YOU...? THINGS HAVE BEEN HARD.

I GOT DUMPED HERE ONCE THE AGENCY SQUEEZED ME DRY.

...JEFF...LISTEN, YOU...DON'T THINK I LIKE LIVING IN A SWEATY SHITHOLE LIKE THIS, DO YOU...?

.....

PLEASE THINK OF THIS AS A SMALL ATONEMENT.

I UNDER-STAND BETTER THAN YOU THINK, GEORGI...

THE CIA !?

IT'S THEM. IT'S THE AGENCY.

MITCHELL'S EXECUTION BEING STAYED ...

YOU'RE NOT A PART OF THIS "WE."

WHY WOULD WE DO THAT?

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

B-BUT...

MITCHELL WILL GET HIS SENTENCE CHANGED TO LIFE IN PRISON. THEN, IN A FEW YEARS, A TRANSFER TO SOME COUNTRY-CLUB FACILITY...AND IN A FEW MORE... HE'S OUT.

KALENKOV KNEW. AND HE WASN'T GOING TO STAND FOR IT.

THEY OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T TELL YOU.

.....

HE'LL BE FOUND WHEN HE WANTS. NOT BE-FORE.

HA!

WHERE IS KALENKOV NOW?

...WHAT IN GOD'S NAME IS HIS PLAN !?

OCTOBER 12TH, IN AMARILLO...AND MITCHELL'S SUPPOSED TO DIE AT ONE MINUTE AFTER MIDNIGHT...12:01 AM ON THE 13TH. BUT IF YURI'S TELLING THE TRUTH, HE'LL BE HALFWAY ACROSS THE COUNTRY WHEN IT HAPPENS.

.....

13

PART 5

ONLY GOD KNOWS

SIR... WHAT'S THAT FOR ...?

October 5th

THAT THERE IS FOR VENTILATION.

AH, ON OCCASION THERE WILL BE AN INCONTINENT INCIDENT ON THE PART OF THE PRISONER...EITHER BEFORE OR DURING THE PROCEDURE...

THE GUARDS WILL THEN EXIT THE ROOM AND TECHNICIANS WILL ENTER TO PLACE AN INTRAVENOUS NEEDLE IN THE PRISONER'S ARM. THIS NEEDLE WILL BE CONNECTED TO A TUBE...

THE TUBE IN TURN IS CONNECTED TO A MACHINE IN THAT CHAMBER THERE CONTAINING THREE CHEMICALS. THE FIRST IS SODIUM THIOPENTAL, WHICH INDUCES UNCONSCIOUSNESS.

A SIXTH THEN CHECKS ALL RE-STRAINTS.

THE CONDEMNED IS, UH, ASSISTED ONTO THE TABLE, AND ONE OFFICER EACH STRAPS DOWN HIS ARMS. TWO MORE OFFICERS SECURE THE LEGS, WHILE A FIFTH STRAPS DOWN THE TORSO.

...AND POTASSIUM CHLORIDE TO STOP THE HEART.

PANCURONIUM BROMIDE TO PARALYZE THE MUSCLES, INCLUDING THE RESPIRATORY DIAPHRAGM...

THE OTHER TWO ...?

NOT IF THE PROCEDURE IS DONE, UH, PROPERLY...

NO, THERE'S NO PAIN INVOLVED...

IS THERE PAIN?

.....

.....

.....

OF COURSE, IT IS THEIR CHOICE TO DENY IT, OR NOT TO HEAR IT.

NO, THERE'S A FINAL APPEAL TO THE SUPREME COURT...

YESTERDAY, THE STATE SUPREME COURT DENIED HIS APPEAL. DOES THIS NOW MAKE MITCHELL'S EXECUTION CERTAIN...?

WHAT ABOUT THE GOVERNOR? IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY OF CLEMENCY...?

I AM PREPARED FOR THAT CALL UP UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT, AND I WOULD OF COURSE, FOLLOWING THAT PROTOCOL, STOP THE PROCEDURE.

IF YOU SEE THIS RED PHONE HERE...IT LEADS DIRECTLY TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE. IF IT RINGS, THERE IS A CORRECT PROCEDURE BY WHICH, UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS STATE, THE EXECUTION WILL BE HALTED.

.....

.....

.....

...IT'S NEVER HAPPENED.

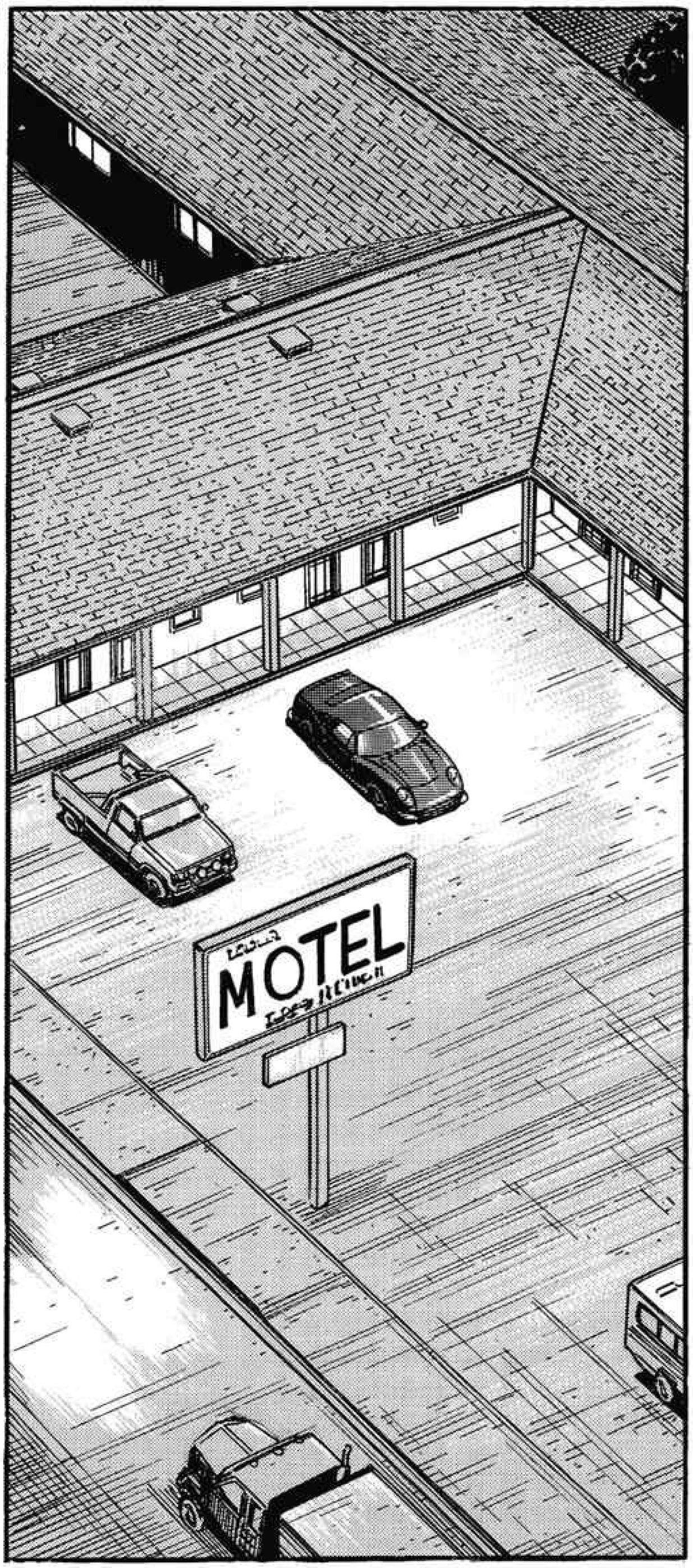
BUT, YOU KNOW...

MY DUTY IS TO THE LAW, SIR...ONLY GOD KNOWS WHAT IS JUSTICE.

DO YOU THINK THAT WOULD BE JUSTICE?

THERE'S WORD THE GOVERNOR MAY COMMUTE MITCHELL'S SENTENCE TO LIFE IMPRI-SONMENT.

PART 6 REPORTING BACK



I DON'T THINK HE'S GOING TO *SHOOT* HIM. THEY'RE DISPATCHING THE STATE MILITIA AS AN EXTRA GUARD ON THE PRISON.

THOSE ADVOCATES OF HIS MIGHT GET ROWDY, YOU KNOW.

WELL...

WHAT IS IT...?

ERIC...I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU AS A COLLEAGUE.

...IF THE EXECUTION *WERE* STAYED?

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL ...

IT'S LIKE YOU SAID. THE CIA'S MADE A LOT OF ENEMIES ON CAPITOL HILL.

WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN ...?

.....

A LITTLE JUSTICE, EVEN FOR RUSSIANS? I HAVE MY PRIDE IN THE AGENCY, ERIC. DON'T YOU...?

I DON'T SUPPOSE WE COULD AT LEAST SALVAGE A LITTLE HONOR FROM THIS.

AND WE DON'T HAVE THE RED FLAG AROUND ANY MORE TO DISTRACT THEM. NO, THAT BULL MIGHT JUST RUN INTO US THIS TIME.

IF WE DON'T, WHAT DID ALL YOUR RUSSIANS DIE FOR, ANYWAY...?

AND IT'S LIKE *I* SAID, JEFF...WE'RE AN *AGENCY*. NOT A SCATTERING OF LONE WOLVES. I'M TRYING TO *SAVE* THIS ORGANI-ZATION.

.....

CHAK

PART 7 THE PRISONER, THE NIGHT BEFORE

Lower Manhattan

GLOBAL PRECISION BX SNIPER RIFLE! MADE WITH PRIDE IN BONNIE OLD SCOTLAND!

GOTCHA ORDER!

ZEROED FOR 300 METERS, LIKE YA SAID.

AND THE SIGHTS ...?

WHAT'S THAT?

ONE MORE THING, THOUGH.

GOOD.

DOIN' SOMEONE IN AN ARMORED CAR...?!

THAT LOAD'S GONNA GET YOU THROUGH 20MM OF METAL ARMOR!

...TO TUNGSTEN CARBIDE.

I WANT THIS LAPUA .338 MAGNUM'S BULLET SWITCHED FROM LEAD ANTIMONY ...

...WHAT KINDA PENETRATION YOU AFTER HERE, ANYWAY ...?

!!

GOOD MORNING, MR. PRENTISS.

WARDEN.

SEE YOU IN FOUR HOURS, THEN.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE...?

I ONLY NEED ONE BULLET.

NOT THAT I NEED TO KNOW.

.....

...EIGHT HOURS.

GIVE ME...

THE SUPREME COURT HAS DECLINED TO HEAR THE CASE.

THE PARDONS COMMITTEE WAS AGAINST CLEMENCY, 5 TO 0.

WELL, THEN.

October 12, 1998

.....

Oooo

I MEAN, USUALLY YOU HAVE TO KILL A ***COP*** TO GET THOSE ACTIVISTS TO SUPPORT YOU.

THE STATE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE IS MAD AS HELL OVER THIS PROTEST. HOW'D THEY GET THE IDEA THERE'D BE *CLEMENCY*? HE KILLED HIS WIFE, IT'S THAT SIMPLE.

WE'LL DO IT ACCORDING TO THE BOOK, SIR.

LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH. I'LL BE HERE TONIGHT AS A WITNESS, ON BEHALF OF THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

HE'S AT THE HOTEL ON LAKE TANGLEWOOD AS HE PROMISED. NOW HE SAYS HE'S READY TO TALK.

SOON THIS WILL BE OVER...ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.

.....

YOU DECIDED?

HEY, MITCHELL. I'VE COME TO TAKE YOUR ORDER.

SAME AS EVERY-ONE ELSE.

HELL, WE'LL GET YA SOMETHING FRENCH IF YOU WANT...

WHAT'S IT GONNA BE? STEAK? THEY DO UP A REAL GOOD FISH FRY...

KTNK

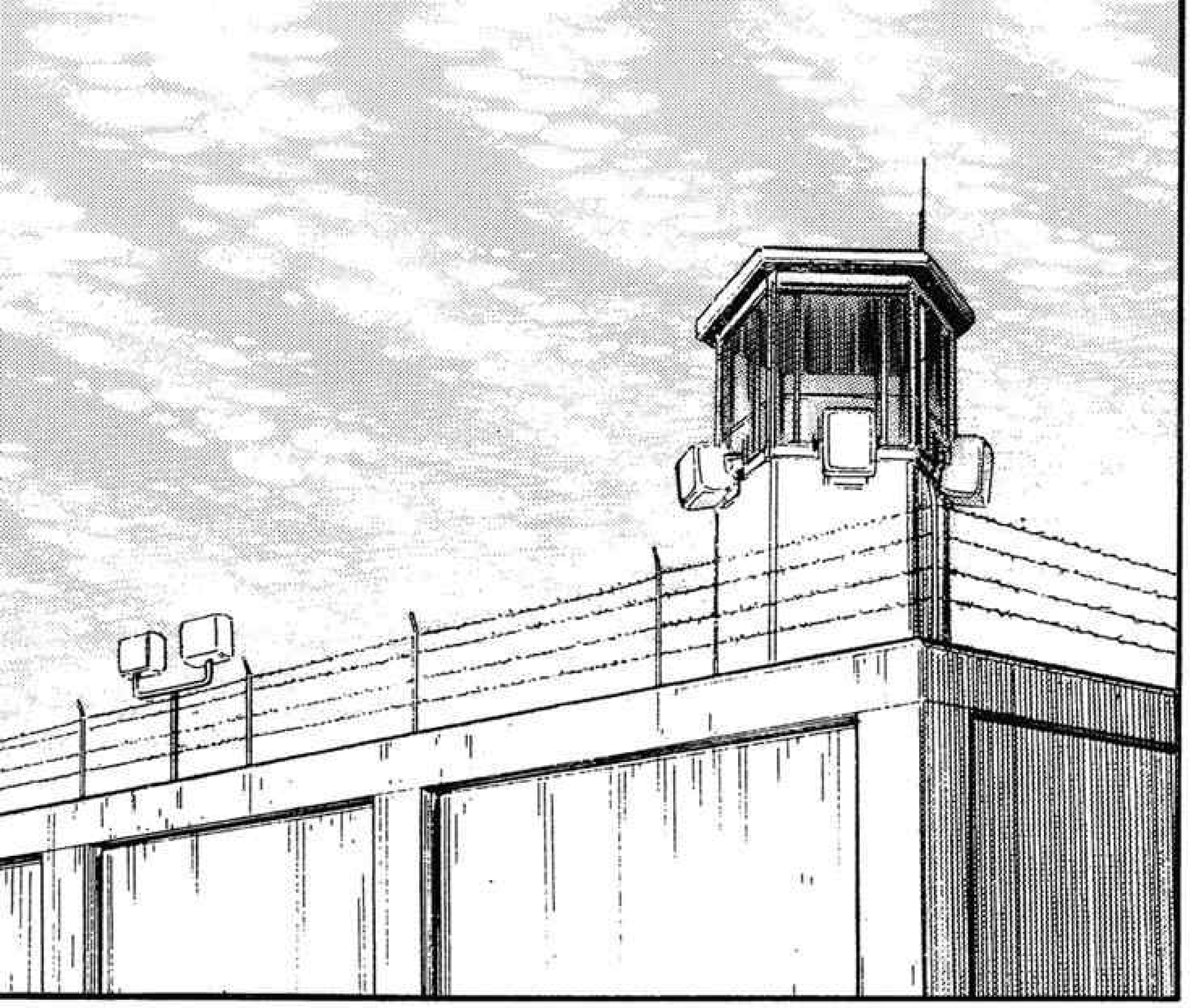
FINE, THEN!

YOU CAN HAVE WHAT-EVER...

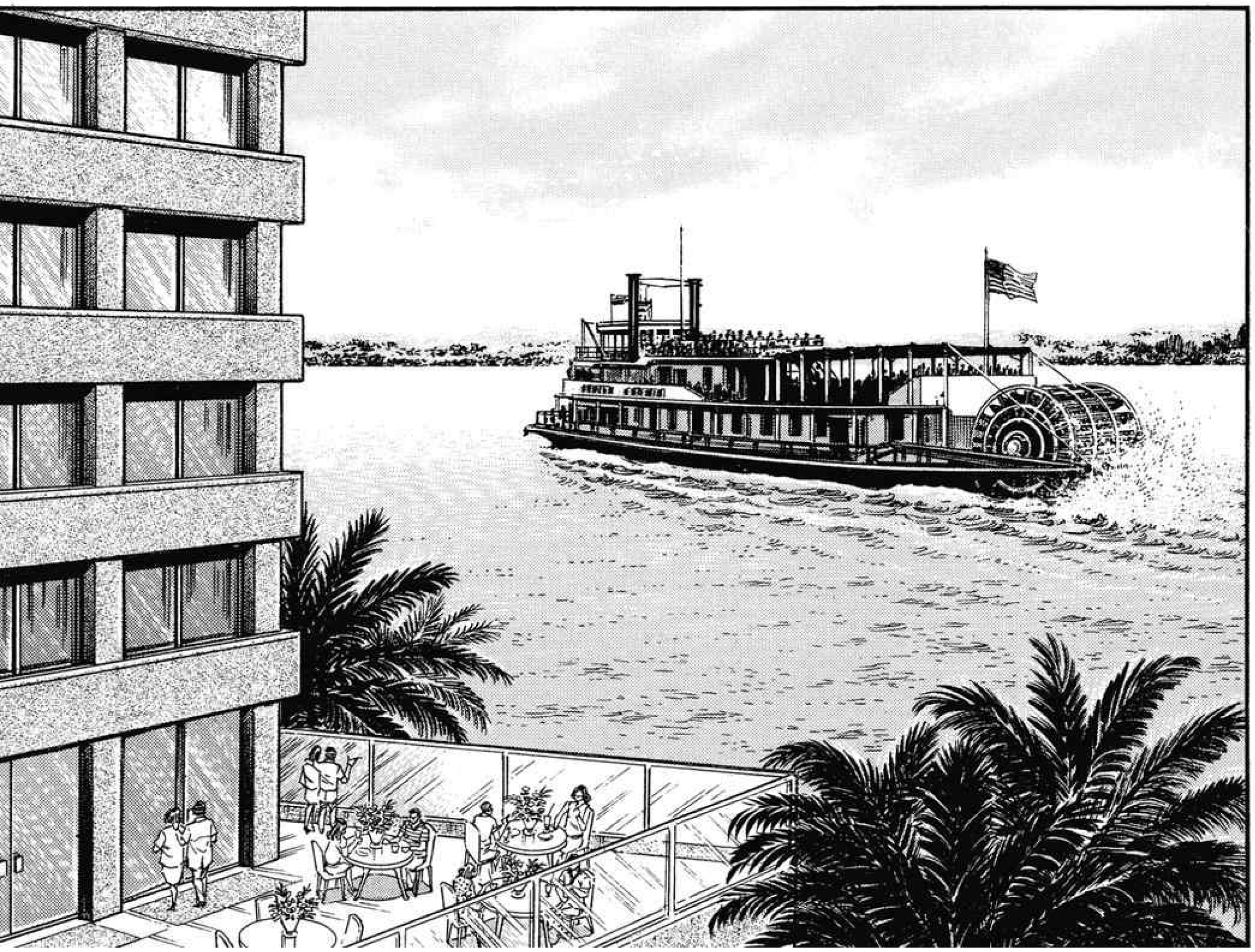
TUESDAY NIGHT? SHOULD BE FRANKS AND BEANS.

IF IT WAS ME, I'D BE GOING NUTS...I'D BE BEGGING FOR MERCY.

MAN...HIS LAST MEAL, AND IT'S NOTHING TO HIM...? SITTING WAITING TO DIE?

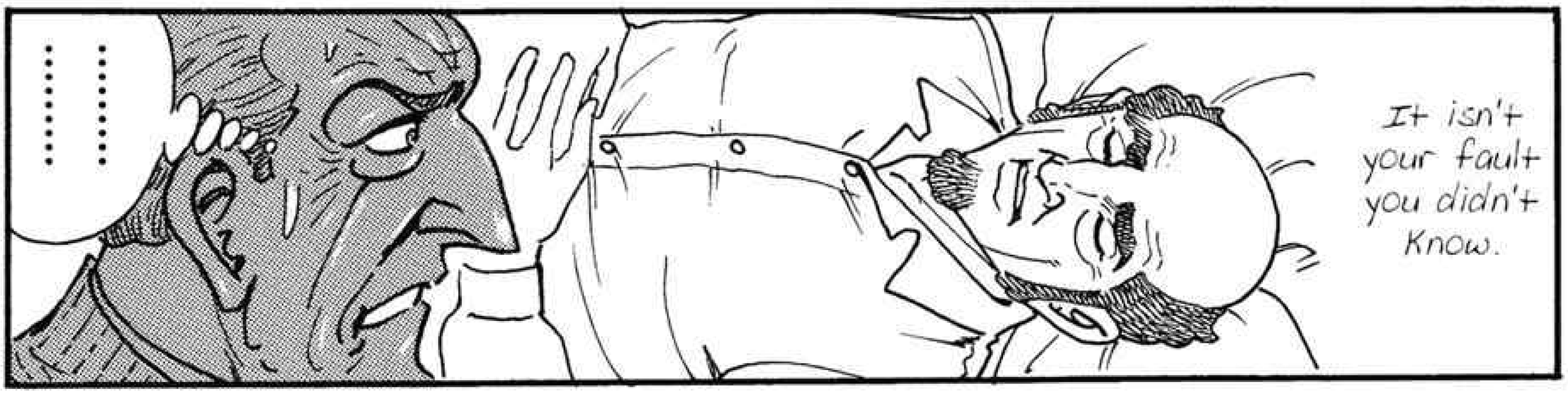


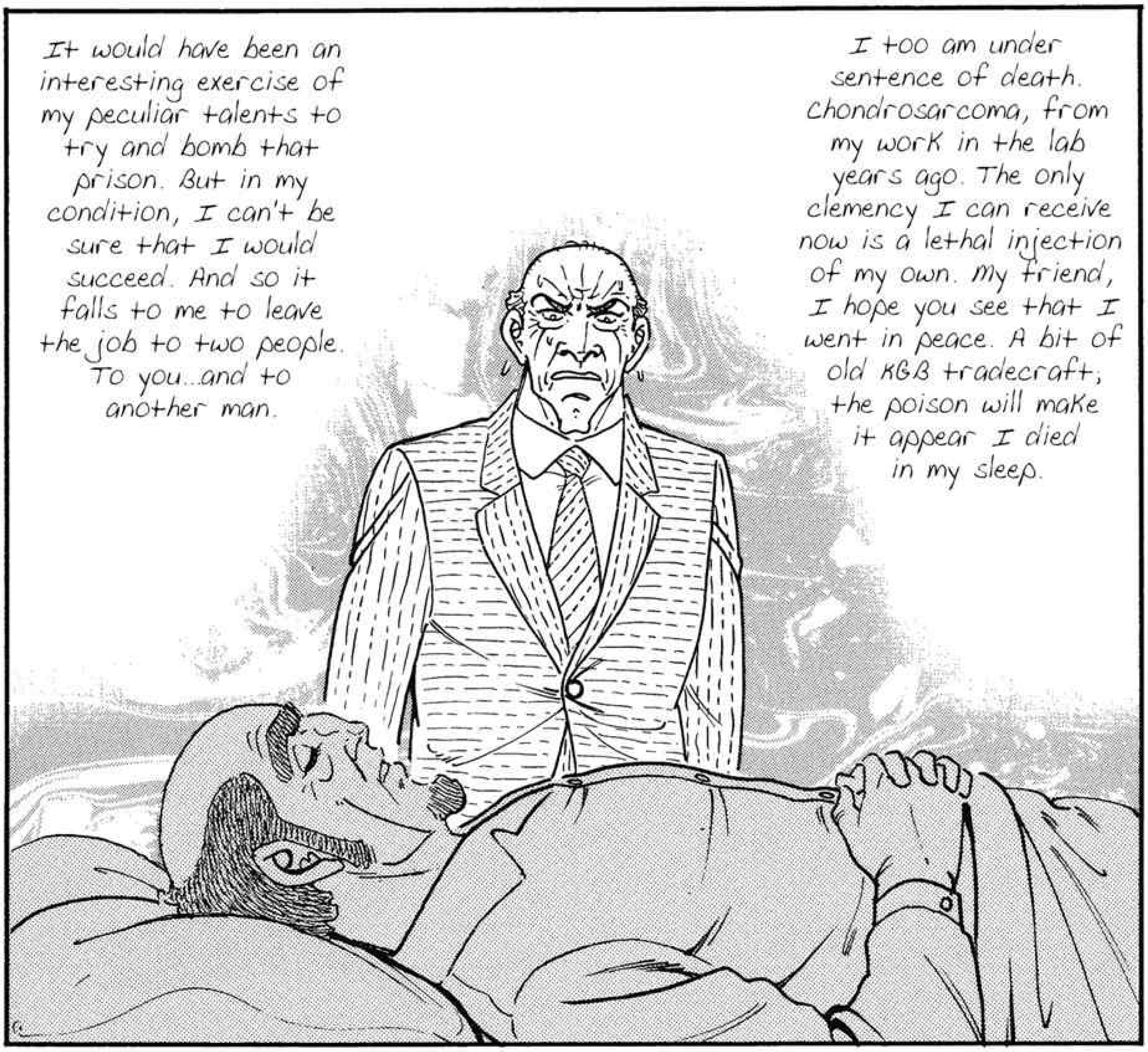
PART 8 KALENKOV'S WILL

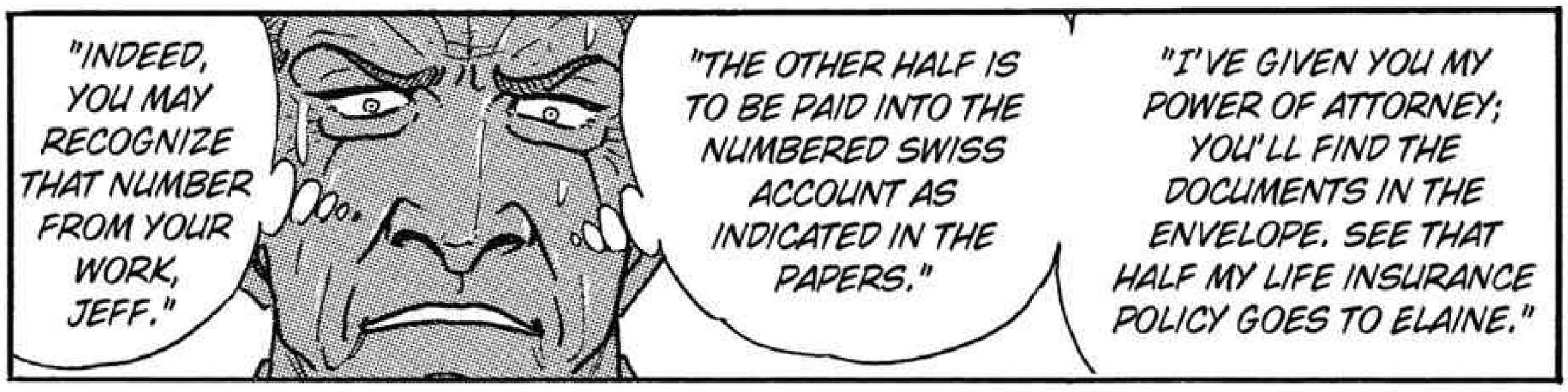


YURI...

Jeff, forgive me for saying my last words like this. But let me be clear. Mitchell's execution will be carried out as planned on the 13th. And justice will be done.


.....
It isn't your fault you didn't know.


It would have been an interesting exercise of my peculiar talents to try and bomb that prison. But in my condition, I can't be sure that I would succeed. And so it falls to me to leave the job to two people. To you..and to another man.
I too am under sentence of death. Chondrosarcoma, from my work in the lab years ago. The only clemency I can receive now is a lethal injection of my own. My friend, I hope you see that I went in peace. A bit of old KGB tradecraft; the poison will make it appear I died in my sleep.


"INDEED, YOU MAY RECOGNIZE THAT NUMBER FROM YOUR WORK, JEFF."
"THE OTHER HALF IS TO BE PAID INTO THE NUMBERED SWISS ACCOUNT AS INDICATED IN THE PAPERS."
"I'VE GIVEN YOU MY POWER OF ATTORNEY; YOU'LL FIND THE DOCUMENTS IN THE ENVELOPE. SEE THAT HALF MY LIFE INSURANCE POLICY GOES TO ELAINE."

"YOU SEE, I DIDN'T TURN BACK. SO THANK YOU, MY DEAR FRIEND."

YURI... DID YOU ...?!

.....

...INSIDE THE PRISON ?

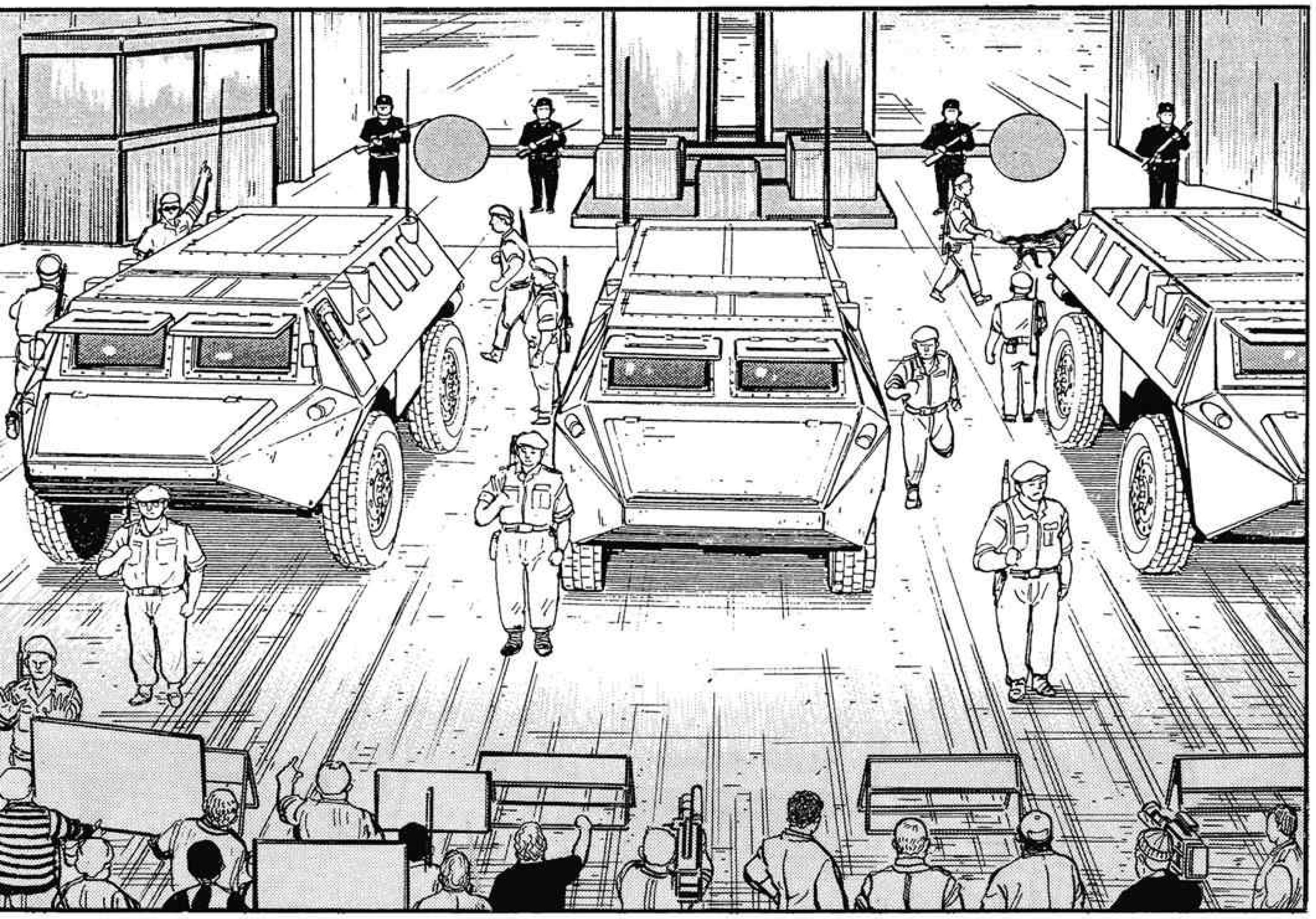
BUT HOW IS HE GOING TO KILL HIM ...

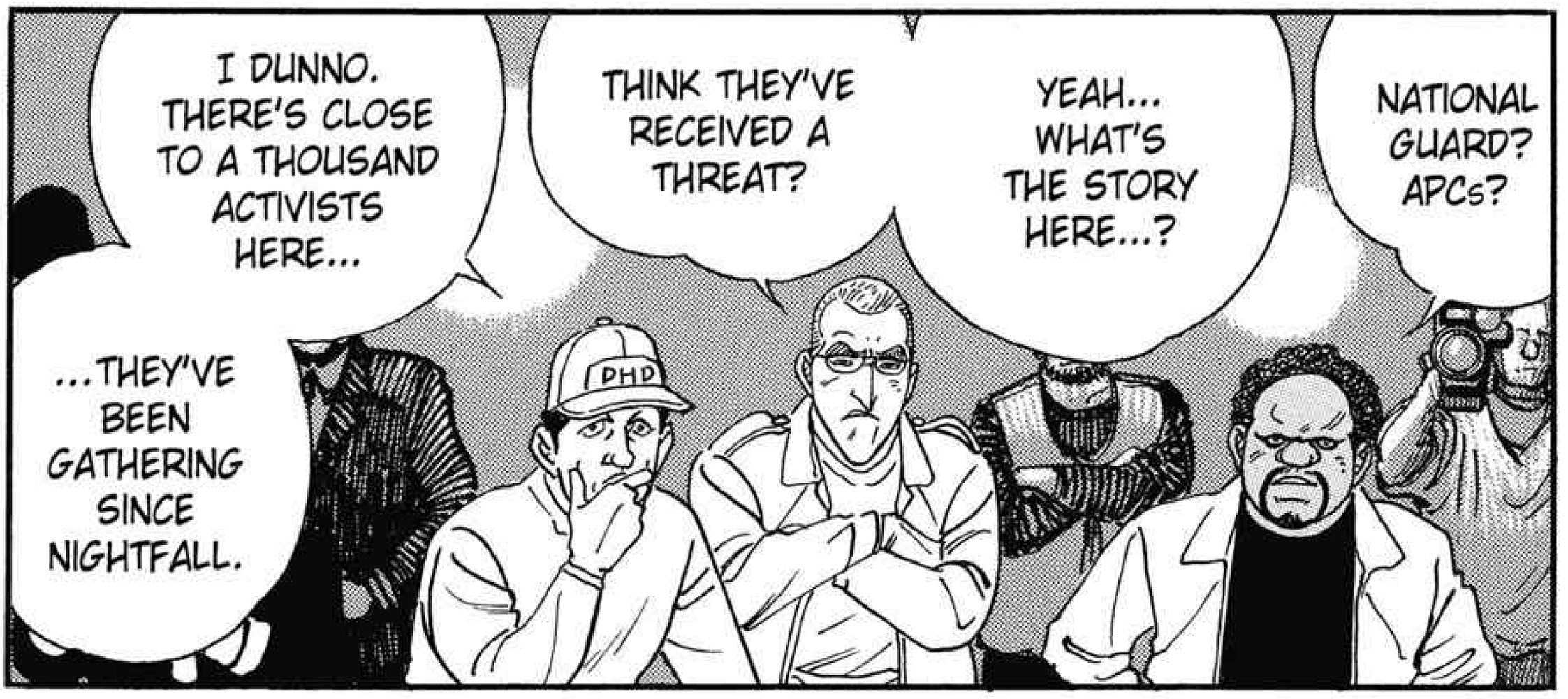
IF A MAN LIKE YOU COULDN'T DO IT YOURSELF... THEN MAYBE IT SHOULDN'T BE TRIED...MY DEAR FRIEND YURI.

I DON'T KNOW IF THIS WILL WORK... LIEUTENANT-COLONEL KALENKOV.

AND I SAID THAT YOU'D GET DEATH ONLY ON MY TERMS.

PART 9 THE DIRECT LINE




I DUNNO. THERE'S CLOSE TO A THOUSAND ACTIVISTS HERE...
...THEY'VE BEEN GATHERING SINCE NIGHTFALL.
THINK THEY'VE RECEIVED A THREAT?
YEAH... WHAT'S THE STORY HERE...?
NATIONAL GUARD? APCs?
DHD

JUST WHAT EXACTLY'S GOING ON...?

ARE THOSE... *BOMB-SNIFFING DOGS?*

STAY SHARP, YOU GUYS.

PHP

11:03 PM... LESS THAN AN HOUR LEFT.

BRRRRRRRR

DO YOU WANT THE CHAPLAIN?

HALF AN HOUR ...

NOT TOO BAD.

HOW ARE YOU FEEL-ING?

NO...IN AN HOUR I CAN TALK TO HIS BOSS.

IT SOUNDS LIKE THERE'S QUITE A COMMOTION OUT THERE, WARDEN.

GO OUT ON A GOOD NOTE.

NOW I WANT YOU TO KNOW I APPRECIATE YOUR MAKING IT EASY FOR US ALL HERE.

I'M AFRAID A LOT OF PEOPLE AREN'T AS CALM AS YOU, MITCHELL.

.....

I'M GOIN' OUT... WARDEN.

YEAH.

Governor's Mansion

IT'S AN ELEGANT RESIDENCE, TO BE SURE.

I'VE GOT A NICE PLACE IN ANNAPOLIS MYSELF.

BUT STILL... THINK OF THE UPKEEP, GOVERNOR.

I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY THE CIA IS INTERESTED IN THIS CASE, MR. KINKAID. AND AREN'T YOU LEGALLY BARRED FROM DOMESTIC OPERATIONS?

NO...

WHAT WOULD YOU CALL THIS? GEORGIAN REVIVAL?

...DEEP WITHIN MY BONES.

I FEEL THE UNFAIRNESS OF THE WORLD ...

WELL, AS I EXPLAINED EARLIER, GOVERNOR... WE'VE HEARD YOU MIGHT HAVE LEGAL PROBLEMS OF YOUR OWN.

YES, YES, YOU EXPLAINED YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF MY PRIVATE AFFAIRS IN NAUSEATING DETAIL, MR. KINKAID. AND THAT'S THE ONLY REASON YOU'RE HERE IN MY OFFICE TONIGHT.

...THE THING IS, TO KEEP THEM THERE, AND NOT AT THE FEAST.

BONES, HA. A WISE MAN ONCE SAID THAT *EVERYONE* HAS A SKELETON IN THE CLOSET, GOVERNOR...

YES, I SUPPOSE THAT KIND OF JUDGMENT WOULD BE A HANDICAP, EH?

I'M NOT JUDGING YOU *MORALLY*.

DON'T MISUNDERSTAND ME, MR. GOVERNOR.

SCANDALS TAG ALONG WITH POWER, GOVERNOR. THE GROWN-UPS AMONG US KNOW THIS. IT'S JUST A QUESTION OF MANAGING THEM, THAT'S ALL.

YES, YES, WE'VE HAD SOME SCANDALS OF OUR OWN.

I MEAN, IN YOUR PARTICULAR LINE OF WORK.

.....

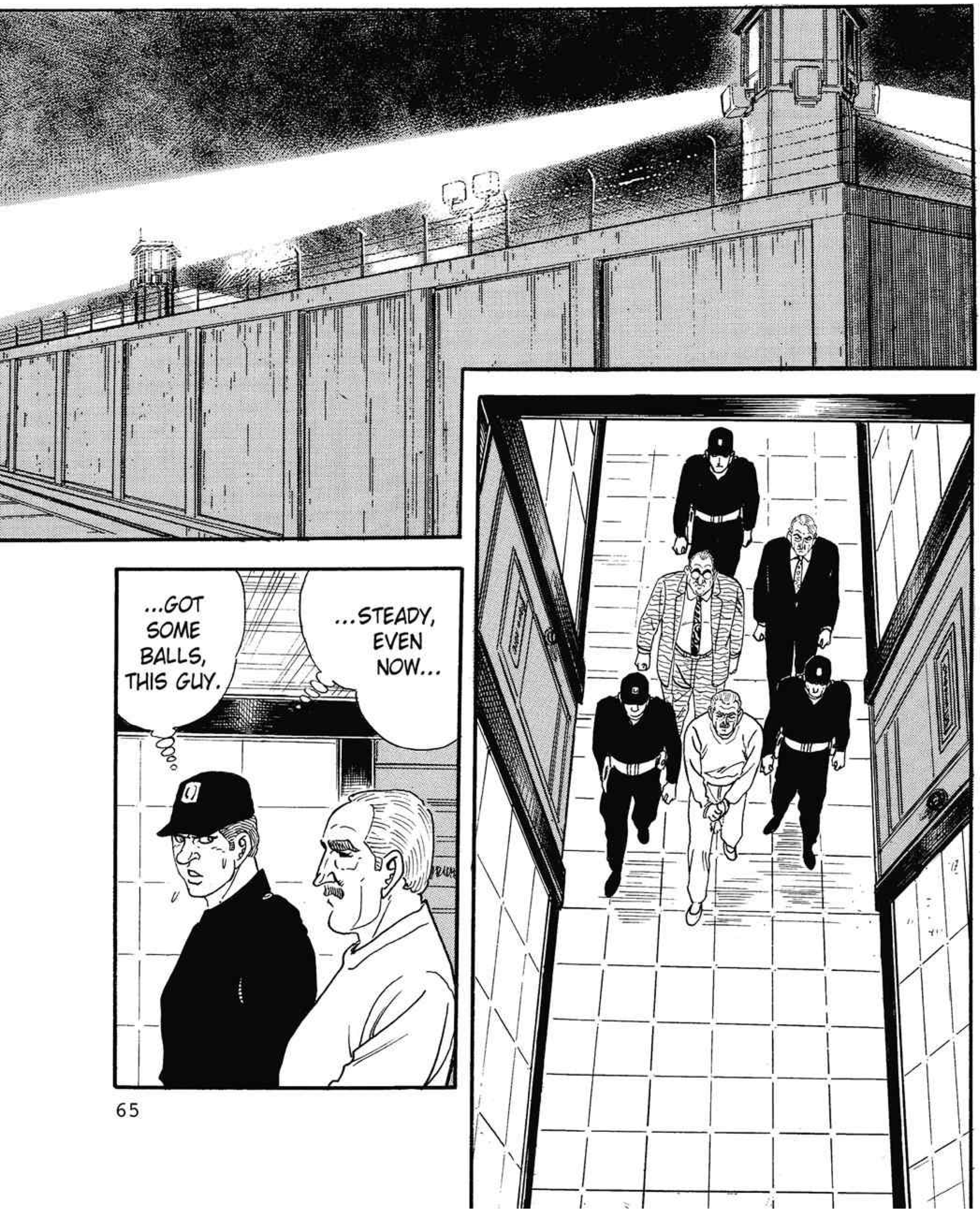
...I SUPPOSE.

IT'S... IT'S JUST ONE CALL TO MAKE...

IS THAT THE PHONE...?

YES...

PART 10 INSURANCE

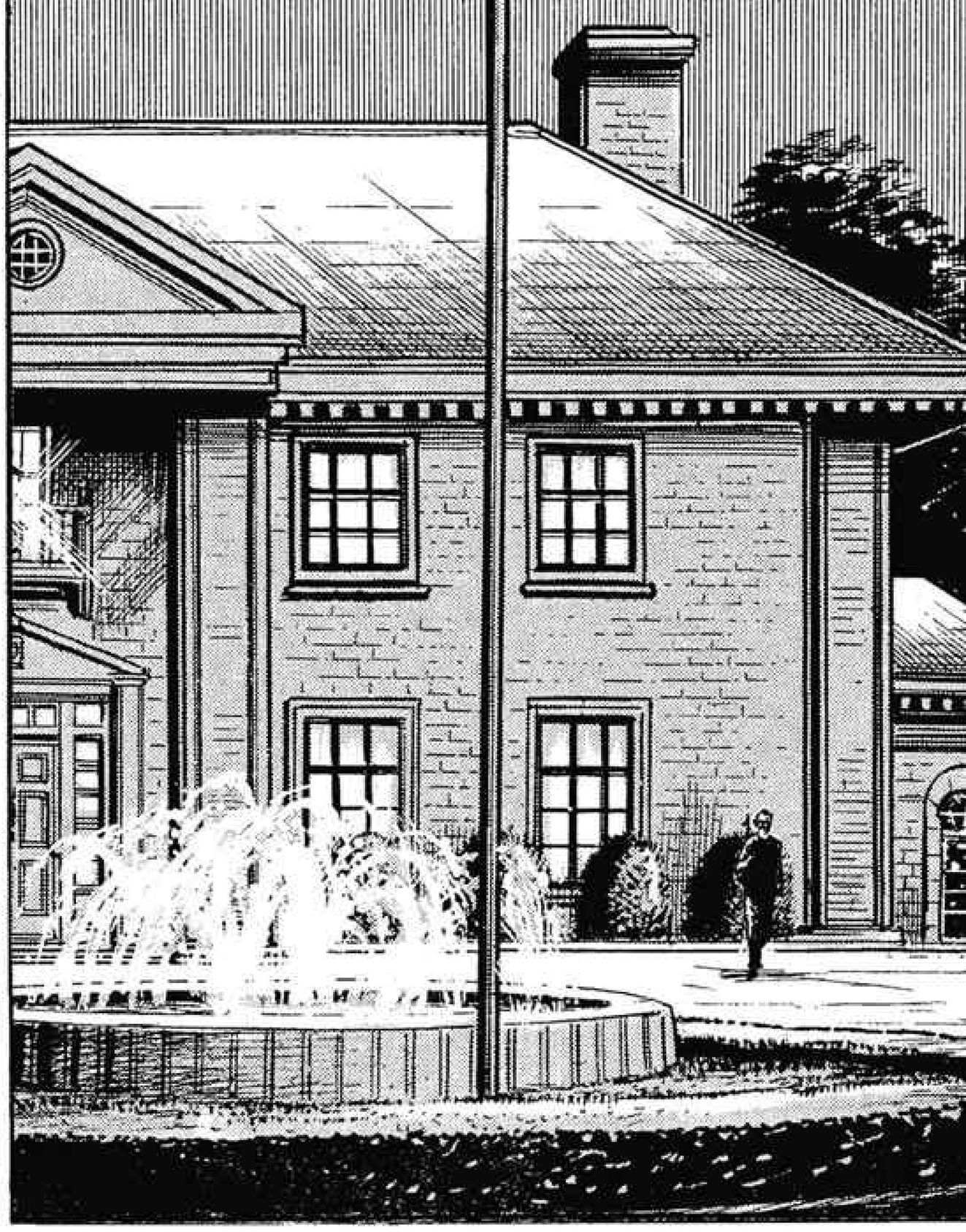


I TOLD THE WARDEN YOU'D BE ON TIME.

JUST A FEW MINUTES.

YOU...YOU'VE GOT TO HIM ALSO?

!!



. . . . . .

AND IN YOUR CASE, WE'RE IN A POSITION TO GIVE ***YOU*** SPECIAL SUPPORT WHEN YOU RUN FOR PRESIDENT IN TWO YEARS.

GOT TO HIM? ***GIVE*** TO HIM, MR. GOVERNOR! IN HIS CASE, A VERY COMFORTABLE RETIREMENT.

THAT'S ENOUGH.

...IF THAT CARROT FAILS, WE COULD ALWAYS RETURN TO THE ORIGINAL STICKING POINT. I'M SURE YOUR OPPONENTS WOULD LOVE TO KNOW ABOUT YOU AND...

OR...

...JUST SHUT UP.

I'LL GO ALONG WITH EVERY-THING, BUT PLEASE...

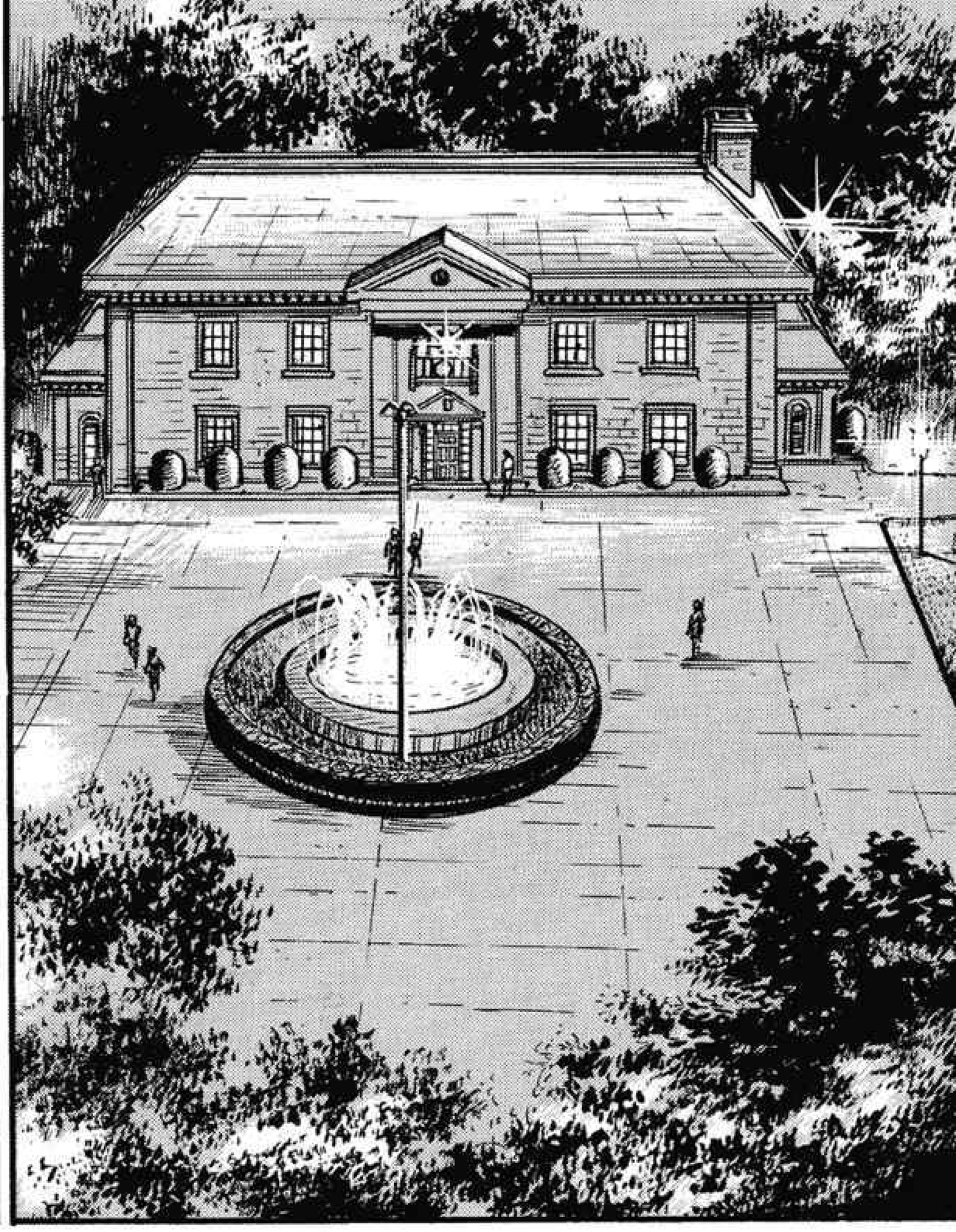
BEING HERE FOR *WHAT*? HOW IS HE GOING TO DO IT...?

THE FLIGHT WAS ALMOST LATE. TWENTY MINUTES MORE AND I'D HAVE MISSED BEING HERE.

WHAT WAS THE PLAN...

AND THIS SECURITY...

WHIRRRRRRRRR



...MITCHELL CONTACTED THE CIA THROUGH HIS LAWYER.

SIX MONTHS AGO...

.....

.....

STRICTLY THE MOST SENSITIVE FILES.

UNBEKNOWNST TO ANYONE, HE HAD COPIED LARGE PORTIONS OF THE AGENCY'S ARCHIVES BEFORE HE WAS CAUGHT.

...THE SANCTIONING OF AMERICAN CITIZENS.

RECORDS OF DRUG MONEY LAUNDERING, SURVEILLANCE OF CONGRESS-MEN...

WHAT DO THE FILES DOCUMENT ...?

...FOR HIS EVENTUAL RELEASE ...?

AND WHEN HE REALIZED THEY WERE IN FACT GOING TO EXECUTE HIM, HE OFFERED TO TRADE THE FILES...

HE'S BEEN BIDING HIS TIME UP TILL NOW WITH BRIEFS... APPEALS... ALL IN VAIN.

THE MAN'S EGO IS IMMENSE. HE'S NEVER *REALLY* BELIEVED HE'D DIE IN PRISON. ONE DAY HE'D GET OUT, AND THOSE FILES WOULD EARN HIM EVEN MORE MONEY THAN BEFORE.

IT SUSTAINED THEIR MISSION... THEIR BUDGET.

EXACTLY. THEY'RE MORE THAN ENOUGH POLITICAL AMMUNITION TO GET THE CIA DISBANDED. FOR MORE THAN FORTY YEARS, THE AGENCY'S CHIEF JOB WAS TO KNOW THE STATUS OF THE SOVIET UNION.

.....

...AND THE SENATORS WILL SAY...OH...SO *THIS* IS HOW THEY SPENT THEIR TIME.

THE FILES WILL BE READ...

.....

TELL ME... IS THAT TRUE...?

HE TOLD ME ONCE THAT HE HAD WORKED WITH YOU BEFORE, YEARS AGO.

THEY ARE NOT ALL LIKE THAT...SOME SERVED THE AGENCY WITH HONOR, EVEN IF THE AGENCY HAD PRECIOUS LITTLE. MY HANDLER, JEFF STEWART IS SUCH A MAN.

YOUR PAYMENT, MR. TOGO. IT WOULD HAVE TO COME OUT OF MY LIFE INSURANCE POLICY. YOU'VE SEEN THE AMOUNT.

HOW DOES HE COME INTO THIS?

.....

.....

Oooo.

THEREFORE, I ALSO NEED YOUR TRUST IN HIM.

I NEED A TRUSTWORTHY MAN TO SERVE AS THE EXECUTOR OF MY ESTATE, AND ENSURE THAT YOU RECEIVE THE FEE.

...MR. TOGO...

HE'LL DO IT. HE TOOK MY LIFE IN HIS HANDS LONG AGO.

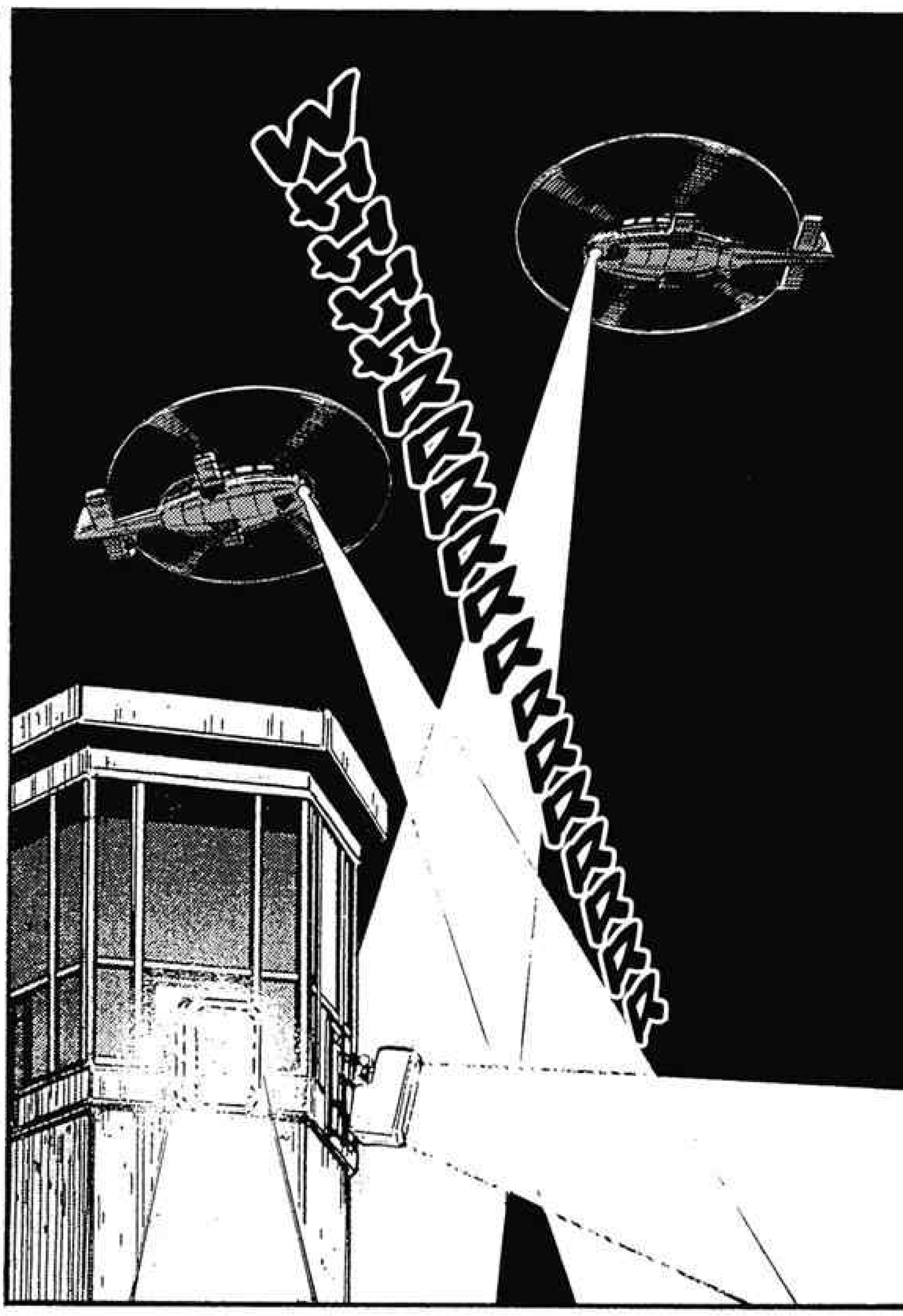
IT SEEMS YOU'RE ASKING MORE OF HIM THAN ME, MR. KALENKOV.

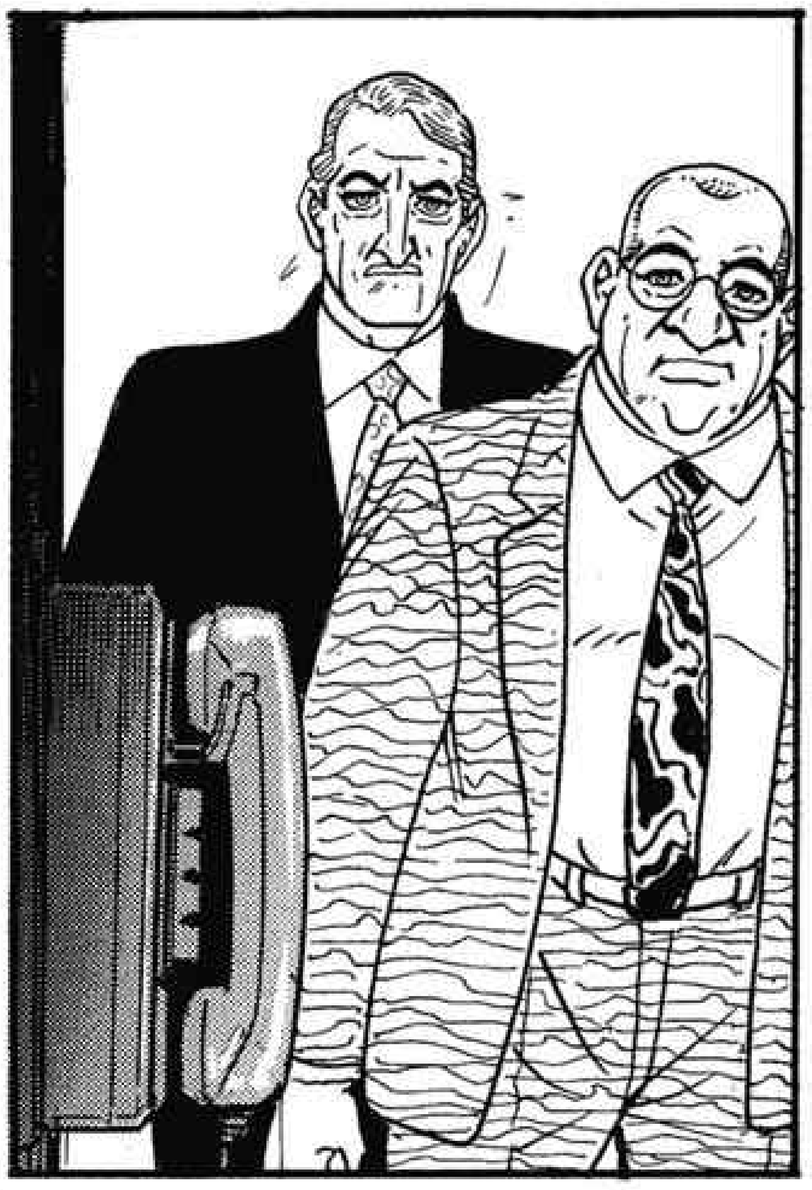
.....

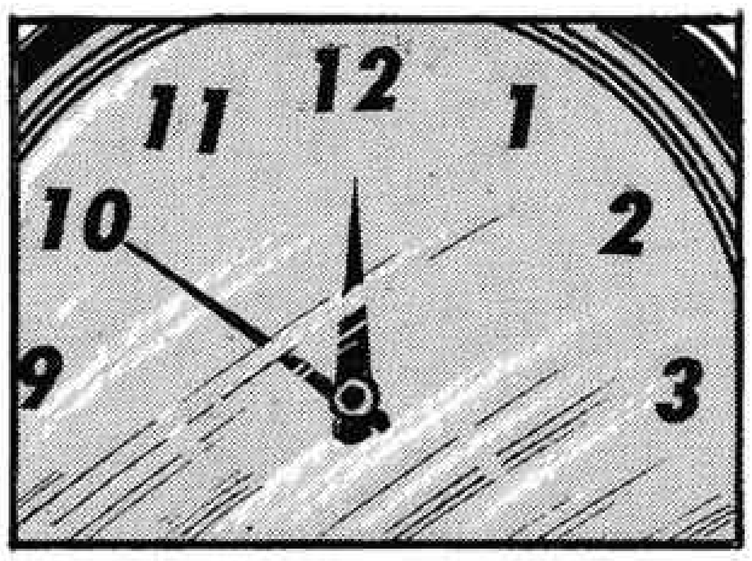
WILL YOU TAKE THE JOB?

I'VE GIVEN YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW.

PART 11 AT THE LAST MINUTE


BRRR

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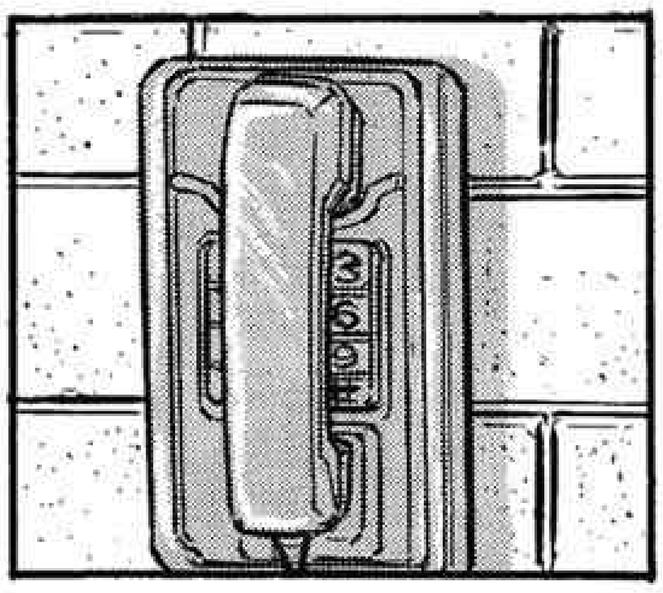
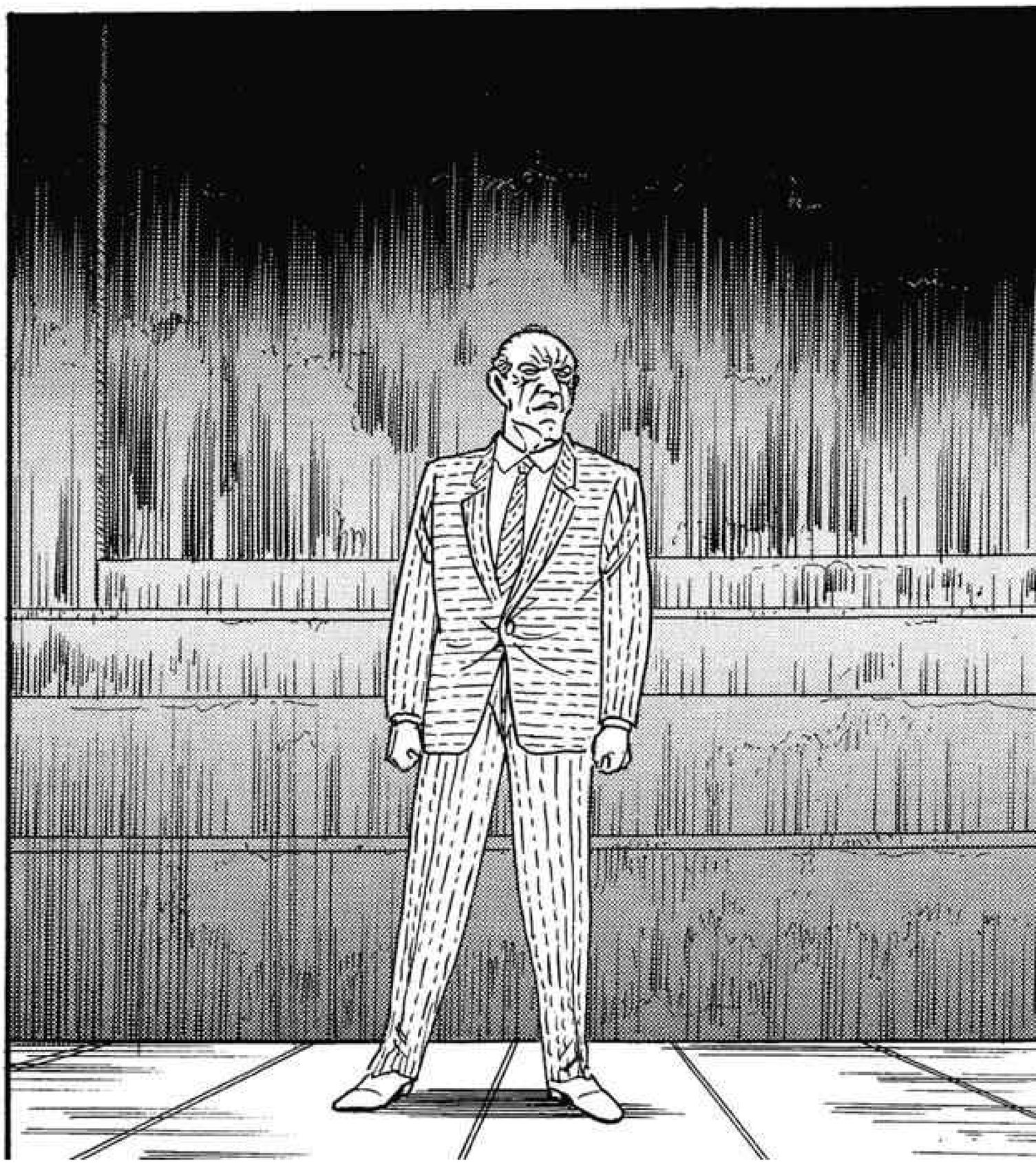


HE'S SO CALM...

STILL NOTHING.
NEARLY THERE.

.....



GOVERNOR, IT'S TIME.

YES...

BRRR

BRRRNNNG

76

BLAMMMMMM

ちんK

SMAKKK

!!

NO...

A SHOT THROUGH THE *WINDOW* ...?!

MY GOD... KALENKOV KNEW ABOUT...

...A SHOT THROUGH THE ***STEEL FRAME!***

...THE WINDOW PANES ARE MADE WITH POLYCARBON LAMINATE...EVEN IF A SHOT GOT THROUGH, THE IMPACT WOULD MAKE IT GO AT RANDOM DIRECTIONS...BUT EVEN 20 MM OF SOLID STEEL CAN BE SHOT STRAIGHT THROUGH WITH *A TUNGSTEN CARBIDE BULLET...*

HELLO, GOVERNOR. IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG?

HELLO? HELLO?!

SIR! IS THAT YOU?

GOVERNOR... CAN YOU HEAR ME?!

PLEASE ANSWER, SIR!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, GO ON?! **STOP** IT!

ER...YES, GO ON, SIR.

PASS-WORD ?!

THE PASS-WORD, SIR.

STOP THE EXECUTION.

WARDEN! THIS IS ERIC KINKAID ON THE LINE. THE GOVERNOR IS... INDISPOSED RIGHT NOW.

I'M WAITING FOR THE PASS-WORD.

SIR...YOU INSISTED ON IT...AS A SECURITY MEASURE...

I... THAT IS...

...THE GOVERNOR HAS ALREADY SIGNED THE DEATH WARRANT. SOMETHING'S OBVIOUSLY WRONG. UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS STATE, PROCEED WITH THE EXECUTION.

WARDEN ...

...TO PREVENT THE POSSIBILITY OF A, UH, IMPOSTOR TAPPING INTO THE LINE SIR. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HERE NEEDS... YOU KNOW...TO CONFIRM YOUR PASSWORD, SIR.

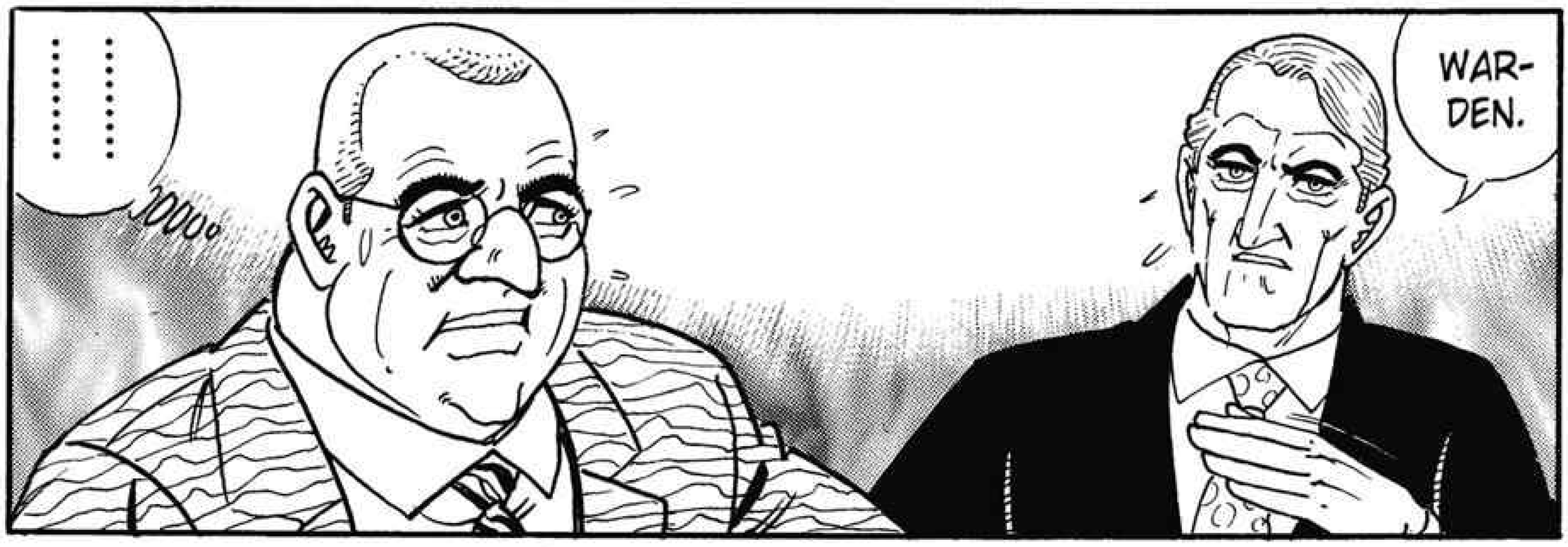
I DON'T WANT TO DIE!

GET ME OUT OF HERE!

NO!

CALL HIM AGAIN! THERE'S SOME KIND OF MISTAKE!

IT'S A MISTAKE!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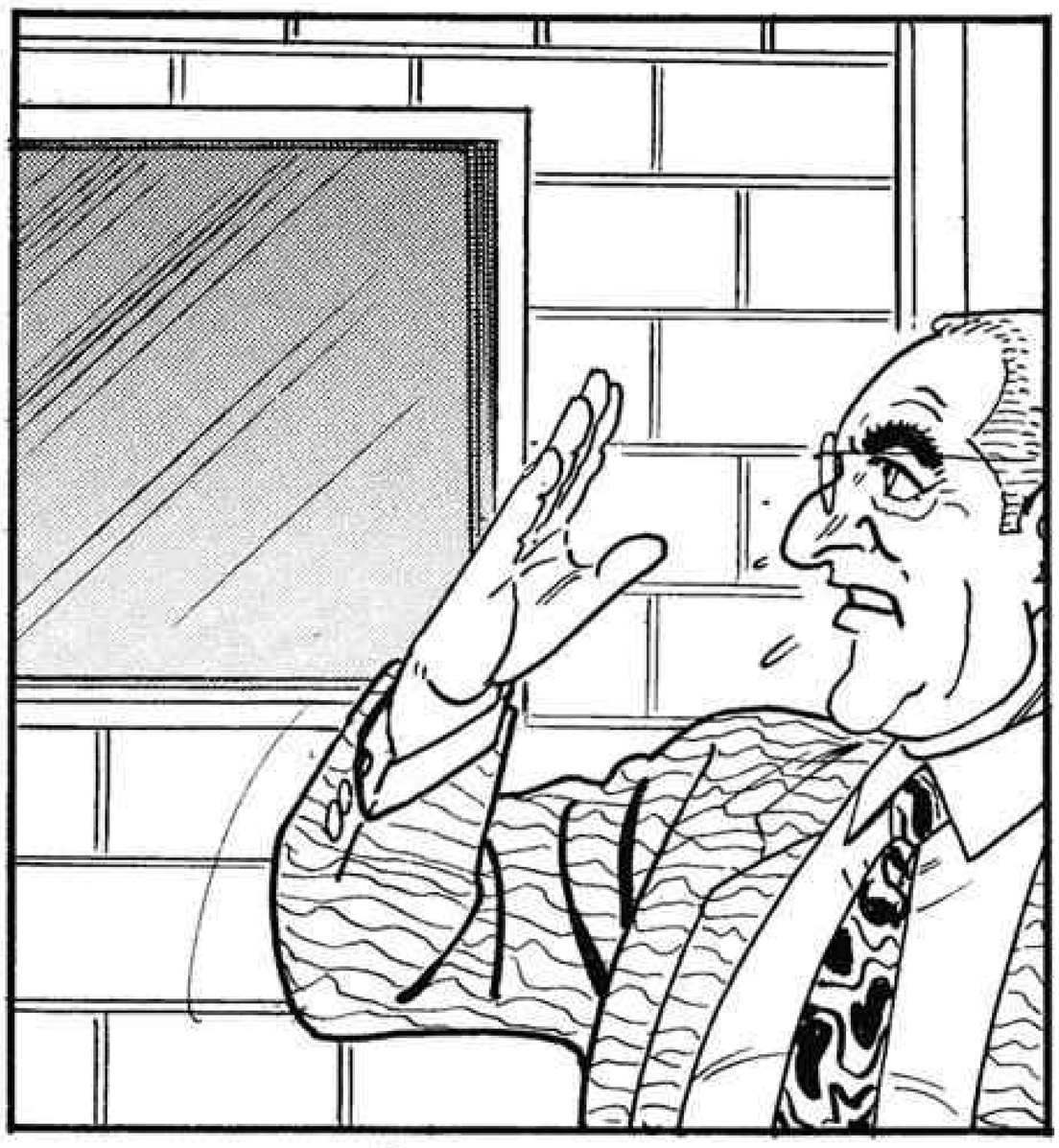
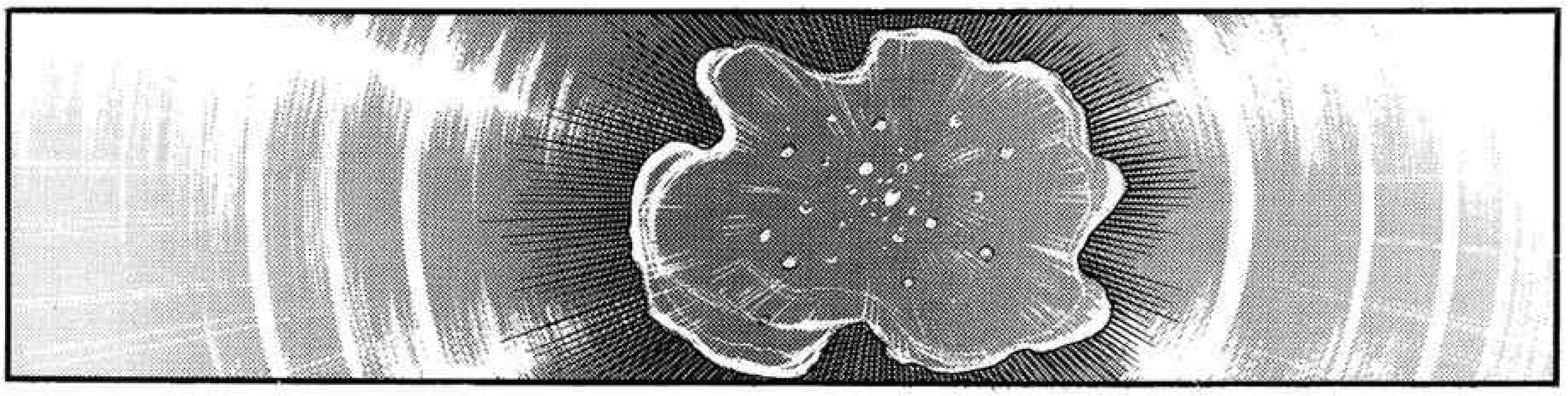
WAR-
DEN.



STOP
IT!
THIS
ISN'T
RIGHT!
HOLD
HIM
DOWN!

kl
ick
ON



THIS ISN'T RIGHT !!

AAAA

PART 12 PAID IN FULL

...NOTHING'S HAPPENED.

IT'S TIME...

DID HE FAIL?

WAS THE EXECUTION STAYED AFTER ALL...?

...HE DIDN'T TAKE THE JOB...WITHOUT THE CASH IN ADVANCE.

BUT HE *DOESN'T* FAIL. THAT LEAVES THE POSSIBILITY...

tnk

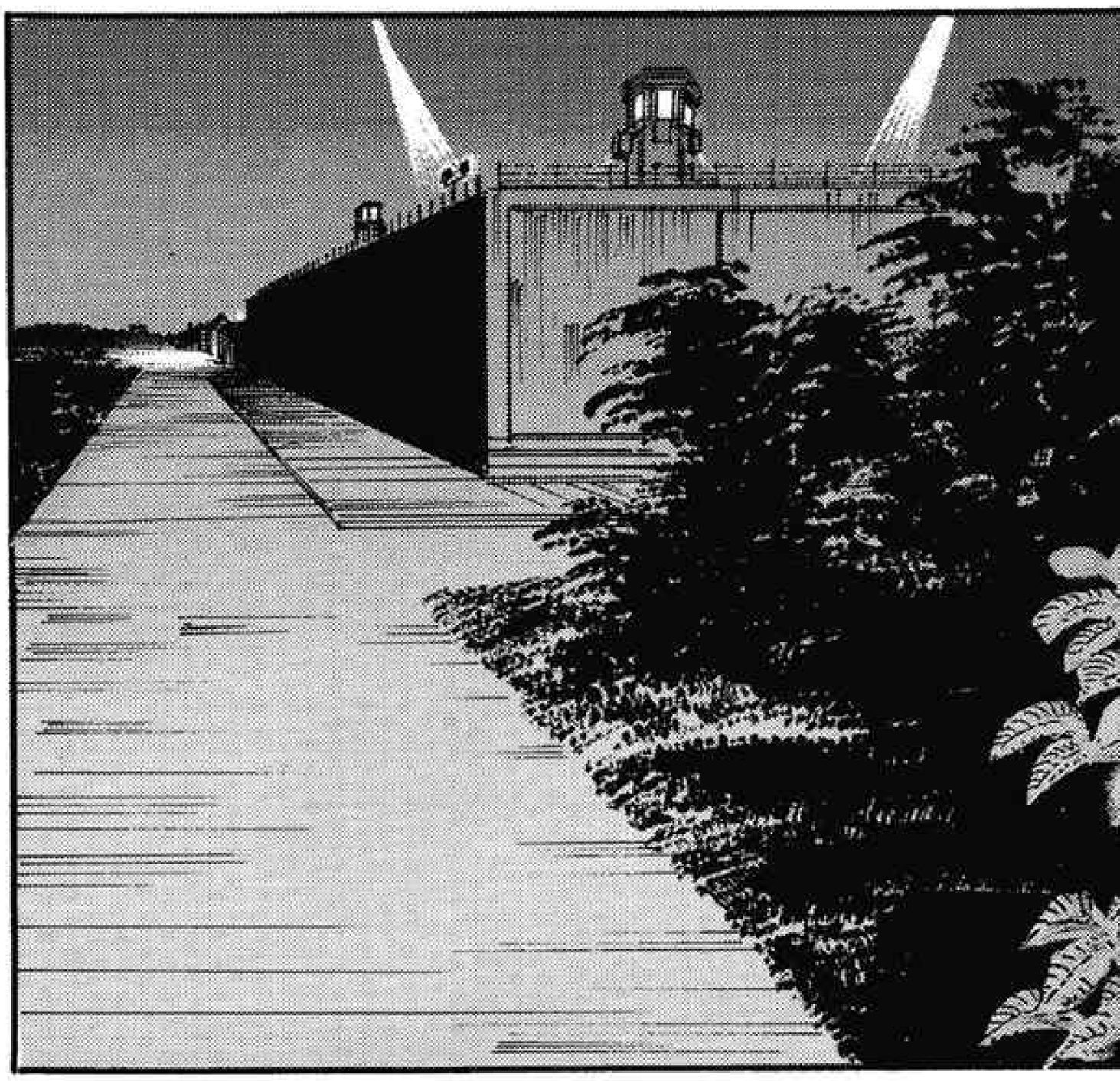
BRWUP.BRWUP.BRWUP

IT'S ME...

CHAK

VRRR

...THEN SO BE IT. I'LL CARRY OUT YOUR WISHES.
I END UP AS THE BAGMAN FOR THE MURDER OF A GOVERNOR. THAT'S WHERE MY HONOR GETS ME. THAT'S MY CAREER...MY LIFE.



END

One Minute Past Midnight
Golgo 13 Story #377, September 1998